



GAZETTEER OF INDIA  
UTTAR PRADESH

DISTRICT GONDA

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# UTTAR PRADESH DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



KAILASH NARAIN PANDE

कर्ममेव जयते

State Editor

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## PREFACE

This is the fiftieth in the series of the revised District Gazetteers of the State of Uttar Pradesh, which are being published under a scheme jointly sponsored by the Union and the State Governments.

For earlier references relating to the area covered by the district of Gonda *Gazetteer of the Province of Oudh*, 1877, various Settlement Reports of the region and H. R. Nevill's *Gonda : A Gazetteer*, 1905 and its supplements published after each census of 1911, 1921 and 1931 have been freely drawn upon. Diverse other sources, official and non-official, were also utilised. The District Magistrate of Gonda, important branches of the district administration and different departments of the State and the Central Governments rendered valuable assistance. A bibliography of the published works used in the preparation of this Gazetteer appears at its end.

Since publication of the last Gazetteer, which appeared in 1905, very significant changes-political, economic and social-have taken place. The present Gazetteer has been completely rewritten and conforms to the contemporary requirements. It also records the highlights of the national struggle and the part played therein by the people of the district.

The work on the Gonda District Gazetteer was originally initiated by Sri D. P. Varun, I. A. S., State Editor, and was continued under the able guidance and supervision of my predecessors whose spade work greatly facilitated my task.

I would like to express my appreciation of the hard work put in by my Editors, Compilation Officers and each member of my staff, technical and non-technical in shaping this volume. I also avail myself of this opportunity to thank the Chairman and the members of the Advisory Board and the officers of the different departments of the State and the Central Governments as also many knowledgeable individuals and non-official institutions who have rendered valuable assistance in the compilation, completion and publication of this new Gazetteer of the district.

LUCKNOW :

Dated : February 7, 1984

(KAILASH NARAIN PANDE)

State Editor

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नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय

## CHAPTER I

### GENERAL

#### Origin of Name of District

Tradition relates that the site of the present town of Gonda was originally a jungle, and that during the rule of the Kalhan rajas of Khurasa there was a cattle station in which the Ahirs of the raja kept their herds. From this fact the place was called Gontha, which afterwards, corrupted into Gonda, a name which occurs with a similar meaning in many parts of the State. The town itself was founded by Raja Man Singh who built a palace here and erected fortifications in the shape of a deep moat and the rampart made by the earth so excavated. Traces of the moat are still visible. In course of time the tract covered by the district came to be known after the name of the town.

#### LOCATION, BOUNDARIES, AREA AND POPULATION

**Location and Boundaries**—The district lies between  $26^{\circ} 47'$  and  $27^{\circ} 51'$  north latitude, and  $81^{\circ} 30'$  and  $82^{\circ} 46'$  east longitude. It is one of northernmost districts of the Faizabad Division. To the north, the district marches with the Nepal territory and marked by a line cleared through the forest with masonry pillars at fixed intervals. To its west it is bounded by district Bahraich and on the east by district Basti. In the south it is separated from districts Bara Banki and Faizabad by the river Ghaghara.

In shape it is a very irregular oblong, narrowest in the middle and widest towards the extremities.

**Area**—According to the central statistical organisation, the district in 1971 covered an area of 7,331 sq.km. and occupied the 7th place in the State in regard to size. Owing to the fluvial action of the Ghaghara frequent changes take place in the area of the district.

**Population**—According to 1971 Census, there were 23,02,929 persons in the district of whom 12,27,448 were males and 10,74,581 females. Of these 1,30,116 persons were residing in six towns while the remaining 21,71,913 residing in the rural areas. The district occupied 11th position in respect of population in the whole State.

#### History of the District as Administrative Unit

Prior to the annexation the district was united with Bahraich and was under the management of a single revenue official. In February 1856 Awadh was annexed by the British government and Gonda was separated from Bahraich and constituted as a new district.

The district has been slightly altered in shape and area since annexation. The alteration was made by the treaty of January 7, 1875, whereby the boundary of the district with Nepal on the Dundawa range of hills from Baghaura Tal to the Arrah river was refixed.

Shortly afterwards other slight modifications were made, by which 32 villages of pargana Tulsipur, west of the Gandhela stream, were transferred to Bahraich district, while a few villages were taken from the Ikauna pargana of that district and included in Balrampur tahsil. The number and names of the various parganas constituting the district have remained unchanged, and the only alterations in their areas were those already mentioned. Originally there were four tahsils, but after the first regular Settlement the fourth known as Balrampur, comprising the two parganas of Balrampur and Tulsipur, was abolished and the area was included in Utraula. The district had in all 13 parganas. The central or Gonda tahsil contained the two parganas of Gonda and Paharpur. The southern or Tarabganj tahsil, formerly known as Begumganj, was made up of Guwarich, Digsir, Mahadewa and Nawabganj; and the northern and eastern tahsil of Utraula consisted of the seven parganas of Tulsipur, Balrampur, Utraula, Sadullahnagar, Mankapur, Burhapara and Babhnipair.

With effect from July 1, 1953, the tahsil of Utraula was bifurcated into two tahsils, namely Utraula and Balrampur with their headquarters at Utraula and Balrampur respectively. Presently there are thus four tahsils in the district, the number of parganas remaining the same. The district has six towns namely Balrampur, Gonda, Colonelganj, Nawabganj, Tulsipur and Utraula.

### Subdivisions, Tahsils and Thanas

**Subdivisions**—The district has four subdivisions, Balrampur, Utraula, Gonda and Tarabganj, each forming a tahsil of the same name.

Balrampur tahsil is the largest in the district. It had an area of 2,605.9 sq. km. in 1971. It lies in the north of the district and consists of a wide stretch of country extending from the Bahraich boundary on the west to that of Basti in the east. On the north it is bounded by the territory of Nepal. The southern boundary of the tahsil is formed partly by the Kuwana river, which separates it from tahsil Gonda, the western border of tahsil Utraula, and the river Rapti which divides the eastern portion of Balrampur from Utraula. It has only two parganas namely Balrampur and Tulsipur. According to census 1971, it has a population of 5,90,382 persons (Males, 3,19,112; females 2,71,270). It consists of 652 villages (including 10 uninhabited villages and two towns).

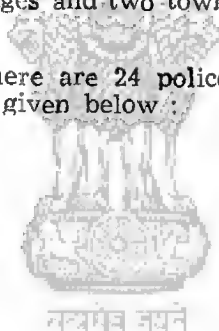
The tahsil of Utraula comprises the eastern half of the district. To the north lies the tahsil of Balrampur, on the south it is bounded by tahsil Tarabganj and district Basti, on the east it is bounded by the Basti district, and on the west by the tahsils of Gonda. In 1971 it had an area of 1,463.2 sq. km. and a population of 5,88,656 persons (Males 3,10,772; females 2,77,884), distributed over 842 villages and one town. The tahsil is composed of five parganas namely Utraula, Sadullahnagar, Mankapur, Babhnipair, and Burhapara.

The tahsil of Gonda covers the western half of the district and consists of the two parganas of Gonda and Paharpur. It is bounded on the east and north-east by the tahsil Utraula, on the south by Tarabganj; on the north by Balrampur and on the west by district Bahraich. In 1971, it had an area of 1605.8 sq. km. and population of 6,02,729 persons (males 3,22,435 ; females 2,80,294). There are 733 villages and one town in the tahsil of Gonda.

Tarabganj is the southern tahsil of the district and consists of a long and narrow strip of country between the Ghaghara on the south, which separates it from the district of Bara Banki and Faizabad, and the Gonda and Utraula tahsils on the north, the boundary for some distance being formed by the Terhi Nadi. To the east lies the district of Basti and to the west the district of Bahraich. The tahsil is made up of the four parganas namely Digsir, Mahadeva, Nawabganj and Guwarich. It has an area of 1,656.0 sq. km. but this figure is liable to considerable fluctuations from year to year due to the erratic action of the Ghaghara. According to census of 1971, it has a population of 5,20,262 persons (males 2,75,129 ; females 2,45,133). The tahsil has 560 villages and two towns.

**Police-stations**—There are 24 police-stations in the district the names of which are given below :

Balrampur Nagar  
Balrampur Dehat  
Tulsipur  
Pachperwa  
Harraiya  
Lallia  
Kotwali Nagar  
Kotwali Dehat  
Itiathoke  
Khargupur  
Kuria  
Katra Bazar  
Colonelganj  
Paraspur  
Umari Begam  
Tarabganj  
Nawabganj  
Wazirganj  
Utraula  
Rehra  
Dhanepur  
Mankapur  
Sadullahnagar  
Chhapia



## TOPOGRAPHY

The district has three natural divisions.

**Terai**—In the north is the moist tract of terai land extending southwards from the forests at the foot hills to the Rapti and the villages immediately under the influence of that river on its south bank. This portion includes the whole of the large pargana of Tulsipur, greater part of Balrampur, and the northern edge of Utraula. As in all submountainous tracts, it lies low; water is very near the surface; and floods are frequent. In the north the innumerable torrents bring down boulders and debris from the hills, and their broad beds are covered with shingle and sand; but further south swamps are frequent and the soil is a heavy clay, admirably suited for the growth of the fine paddy for which Tulsipur has long been famous.

**Uparhar**—The terai gives place to the central upland plain or *uparhar* which extends from the line of the Rapti to a broken sandy ridge, known as the *uparhar* edge, running from north-west to south-east a few kilometres north of the Terhi river and passing a short distance to the south of the town of Gonda. The edge in places is well defined, especially in the west, and resembles the bank of a river, as at one time it undoubtedly was; but towards the south-east it tends to disappear, and its place is taken by sand-hills or merely a narrow strip of uneven ground. The whole *uparhar* tract is a slightly raised plateau, a continuation of the central portion of Bahraich; its surface being broken by the various rivers and drainage channels, which divide the tract into a series of fertile plains separated by uneven spaces of poorer quality. In many parts the thick growth of trees and stretches of scrub jungle indicate that at one time the whole of the tract was covered with forest. The *uparhar* embraces the remainder of the Utraula tahsil, the large pargana of Gonda, and portions of Mahadeva and Nawabganj.

**Tarhar**—The remainder of the district from the *uparhar* edge to the Ghaghra comprising nearly the whole of the Tarabgani tahsil and the Paharpur pargana, constitutes the lowlying tract known as the *tarhar*, or moist area. The general level is about five metres below that of uplands from which it has been cut away by the action of Ghaghara and its tributaries. The whole *tarhar* is covered with a network of small streams and in wet years a large portion of it is liable to inundation. The subsoil is everywhere composed of pure river sand, betraying its origin, and above this is a thin cover of alluvial loam of varying thickness and quality. The fertility of the soil varies inversely with the proximity of the sand to the surface and the degree to which it is mixed with the loam. The distribution of this deposit is by no means even, as in places ridges of sand crop up while between them are depressions with a loam soil of great fertility. Owing to the small depth below the surface at which water is found, the villages of the *tarhar* are in no danger in drought and famine years as was notably the case in 1896, the cultivators of the area made considerable profits from the abundant harvest of maize. On the other hand, this part of the district is liable to suffer damage in seasons of heavy floods from abnormal rainfall, especially in the south of Digsir. Such was the case in 1894, when the widespread inundation was followed by an outbreak of diseases.

**Levels**—The slope of the district, is from north-west to south-east and is not very marked. In the extreme north it is about 200 m. above the level of the sea, and from this point it drops to 107 m. at Tulsipur and 108 m. at Balrampur. The central plateau is slightly higher than this in the north-west, the level at Kauria station being 112 m. but towards the south-east it drops steadily, and in the north of Nawabganj, near the border of the Basti district, it is not more than 99m. The *tarhar* is the lowest part of the district, with heights ranging from 108m. at Colonelganj to about 94m. apposite Ayodhya.

## RIVER SYSTEM AND WATER RESOURCES

### Rapti System

All the rivers of the district flow from north-west to south-east and belong to two main systems that of Rapti in the north and the Ghaghara in the south. Each is fed by numerous tributaries, but the majority, of the latter are of little importance, as they only serve to carry off the surface water during the rainy season of the year.

### Rapti System

**Rapti**—The Rapti rises in the mountains of Nepal, and after traversing the Bahraich district enters the district Gonda on the western border of the Balrampur pargana near the village of Mathura. It flows thence in a very tortuous course through Balrampur as far as the Utraula boundary, and then separates the two parganas till it reaches the Basti district at the Materia Ghat. At that point it bends southwards and forms the district boundary as far as its junction with the Suwawan Nadi in the south-east of pargana Utraula. The banks are usually high, but the river is continually changing its course. It only overflow its banks in very wet seasons, but then, instead of covering the submerged land with sand, it usually leaves behind a deposit of rich loam.

**Burhi Rapti**—On either side of the Rapti, but especially on the north, the country is cut up by innumerable deserted channels of the river. Many of these contain water for a part of the year only, but the only one which can be considered as a definite stream is that known as the Burhi Rapti which emerges near Mathura and flows across the district in a direction roughly parallel to that of the Rapti as far as the Basti border. Thence, instead of turning south, it maintains an easterly course and for a considerable distance separates the Tulsipur pargana from Basti. Arrah Nala first joins Chharihwa Nala which then joins the Burhi Rapti and at this junction with Chharihwa Nala Burhi Rapti leaves the district. This river intercepts the water of all the tributary streams which bring down the drainage from the hills to the north and consequently attains at times large proportions. In wet years it overflows and practically forms one stream with the Rapti, almost the whole of the intervening country being under water.

**Hill Torrents**—The tributaries of the Burhi Rapti are exceedingly numerous, and many of them are known by different names in different portions of their course. They all bears a general resemblance to one another, being hill torrents of the usual description with broad boulder-strewn beds. In the dry season they either disappear or else carry down an insignificant amount of water, but in the rains they are subject to sudden freshets and are rapidly transformed into rushing rivers, which do much damage to the land in their neighbourhood and frequently cover the fields with a deposit of barren sand. In the north of Tulsipur their number is great and every little nullah has its name. Then as they unite with one another their number decreases, but a great many continue an independent course south-wards as far as the Burhi Rapti. The more important of these from west to east are the Kharjhar, Karwi, Kakrawa, Katha, Bhambhar, Banrua and Arrah.

**Suwawan**—To the south of the Rapti is the Suwawan, flowing along the extreme southern edge of the terai. It rises near the western border and passes close to the town of Balrampur, thence flowing through the north of the Utraula pargana and eventually joining the Rapti at Rasulabad on the Basti border. The Suwawan is a sluggish stream with an exceedingly tortuous course. For a short distance to the east of Balrampur its course resembles rather a succession of *jhils* than a river. Further east the channel is deeper and more clearly marked, and before it joins the Rapti it becomes a river of considerable proportions.

### Ghaghara System

The other rivers and streams of the district belong to the *Ghaghara systems and flow through the uparhar and tarhar*.

**Kuwana**—Tenus Nala rises in Bahraich district and after a course of about 13 km. it is known as Kuwana river. After flowing about 4 km. further as Kuwana river it enters Gonda district. It thence flows along the northern border of the pargana as far as the boundary of the Utraula tahsil, and then separates Sadullahnagar from pargana Utraula, forming the dividing line between Burhapara and the Basti district. The river is fed by two small streams—Jadha Nala and Pindariya Nala—flowing down from the *uparhar*, in the north of the Gonda, besides Singha in Sadullahnagar, and an insignificant watercourse which has no distinctive name flowing through the central portion of Utraula. The Kuwana is a sluggish stream and rarely changes its course.

**Bisuhi**—South of the Kuwana is the Bisuhi, a small stream of a similar character. It rises near village Ghuchwapur in Gonda tahsil. It flows for some distance nearly due east, and then, after having traversed the whole of the north of Gonda, takes a southerly course and enters the Utraula tahsil, where it separates Sadullahnagar from Mankapur and Burhapara from Babhanipair. It leaves the district after a course of about 112 km. just before its junction with the Kuwana. It seldom causes any damage by inundation.



**Manwar**—Further south is the Manwar, an insignificant stream, which rises in the centre of pargana Gonda, then flows through the middle of pargana Mankapur and after skirting the Tikri forest, enters the Basti district. The Manwar is a small river with an irregular channel, and the land in its neighbourhood is often clothed with jungle, while at places there are wide stretches of poor soil covered with grass.

**Chandai**—Chandai rises near village Ekman which is about 9 km. north-west of Bidyanagar and joins Manwar where it leaves the district. After separating the Mankapur and Mahadeva parganas winds round the western and southern edge of the Tikri forest. The Chandai is a very sluggish stream, and the land in its neighbourhood is generally swampy.

**Terhi**—Below the southern edge of the *uparhar* flows the Terhi, a stream which rises in Bahraich and is fed by the water of the great Baghel Tal near Pura Gosain. It enters the district on the extreme west of pargana Gonda, then separates that pargana from Paharpur and Gunwarich, and further east forms the boundary between the Mahadeva and Digsir parganas. Leaving these, it flows through the southern part of Nawabganj and joins the Ghaghara a few kilometres, above Ayodhya. The Terhi, as its name implies, has a very winding and irregular course. Although in former days it appears to have changed its channel repeatedly, the result of this being found in the legend of the destruction of Khurasa, it now flows in a well defined bed, though in places it is fringed by swampy ground. Elsewhere, and especially in pargana Digsir, its banks are sandy and the land in its neighbourhood is of very inferior quality. During the rains the river swells to a considerable size, but at other times of the year it only carries a small volume of water. The Terhi is fed by a number of small streams, the chief of which are the Chandehi Nala, which joins it near Bhikaripur kalan and the Bagluha which flows through the centre of Digsir and the west of Nawabganj.

**Saryu**—Between the Terhi and the Ghaghara there are several small streams, especially in the Gunwarich pargana, flowing into the latter river. The chief of these is the Saryu, which rises in the Bahraich district and joins the main stream near Paska. Others are the Kundwa and Belai, which unite near Begumganj and flow into the Ghaghara near Dalelnagar. All these streams are insignificant drainage channels and are of little use or importance. When the *tarhar* experiences heavy rains, they not only increase in volume and do much damage by inundation, but are also often apt to change their course.

**Ghaghara**—The Ghaghara is the name given to the united waters of the Kauriala, Saryu, and Chauka and other rivers which drain the submontane tract to the west of the district. It enters the district in the extreme west of pargana Gunwarich and then flows along the southern borders, leaving the district at Lakarmandi opposite Ayodhya, the distance between its entry and exit being about 88 km. Within its wide bed it rolls from one side to the other changing its channel almost every year between the shifting sandy banks. The land along the river on either side is

always liable to be cut away during the rains, and for this reason the area of the district is liable to annual variations.

## Lakes

The district contains several lakes, many of which are of considerable size and form a valuable source of water-supply. The character of these *jhils* varies according to the locality. In the terai and the *tarhar* they are generally formed by the action of the rivers in changing their beds, and some of them resemble the great *dahars* of Kheri, which have a similar origin. Their shape is that of a horse-shoe, and on the convex side the bank is usually high and sandy. Such *jhils* were once merely bends of a streams, which have become silted up at either side. In the *uparhar* and elsewhere they generally consist of shallow depressions in the surface, in which the drainage water collects, while the larger groups of *jhils* sometimes represent ill-defined lines of drainage, which only develop into streams in years of heavy rainfall. Such are the *jhils* around Kharagupur in the north of Gonda, the Sohela Tal in the centre of the same pargana, and those in the west of Bahhnipair. In the *tarhar*, the principal series of *jhils* is that in the Nawabganj and Mahadewa parganas, the chief of them being the Parbati and Argha Tals, which undoubtedly represent the abandoned course of some river. In the terai there are innumerable swamps along both sides of the Rapti and throughout the lowlying rice tract.

## GEOLOGY

The geology of the district expose nothing but the ordinary Gangetic alluvium with the exception of the boulders and debris brought down by the hill torrents in the north.

The mineral products of the district are very insignificant and practically confined to *Kankar*, *reh* and brick earth.

In the *uparhar*, *Kankar* is generally available for making lime and metalling the roads. Along the course of river Ghaghara it is found in large quantities.

Reh is found in and around Porter ganj (on Lucknow road), and it is used by local washermen for washing clothes.

Brick earth is available in most of the places. Bricks-kilns are seen in the neighbourhood of most of the towns, while at Gonda and Balrampur, good bricks are also manufactured.

## SEISMICITY

Few localities of the district are located in the zone of high seismicity (close to isoseist) and have experienced severe earthquake shocks during the Bihar-Nepal earthquake of 1934. According to the seismic zoning map issued by the Indian standard institution, the district lies in Zone III.

## FLORA

The forests of the district are divided into two divisions namely the north Gonda forest division and the south Gonda forest division, covering an area of 52,197 ha. and 19,710 ha. respectively.

The character of the vegetation in the north Gonda forest division differs in the different parts of the division, owing to variations in the general configuration of the ground. In the north the trees are stunted and badly shaped and their distribution is irregular. In the central part of the division the trees are usually tall and straight and the forest belt is more or less continuous. In the southern part of the division the forest is of an inferior description, consisting mainly of stunted trees and shrubs of miscellaneous species. The principal species of trees of any commercial value found in this division are the sal (*Shorea robusta*), asna (*Terminalia tomentosa*), dhau (*Anoge sus latifolia*) and haldu (*Adina cordifolia*). The good sal forests are to be found in the level part of the central zone and along the water courses, but everywhere they contain a large admixture of asna. The asna is most plentiful in the east, but everywhere found mixed with sal, dhau or other species. It thrives in a moist clay soil, and consequently the best growth is obtained on the low ground and on the banks of the streams. Among the less numerous trees may be mentioned the shisham (*Dalbergia sisso*) and the khair (*Acacia catechu*), which are found on the low ground along the broader watercourses. The former often attains a good size but the latter is generally small and ill-grown.

The south Gonda forest division stands on almost level ground sloping slightly towards the south and east and drained by the two rivers the Chandai and the Manwar and other shallow watercourses. The trees found in this division are the mahua (*Madhuka Indica*), semal (*Shorea robusta*), jamun (*Syzygium cumini*), aonla (*Emblca officinalis*), dhak (*Betua monosperma*), siris (*Albizia species*), babul (*Acacia arabica*), bel (*Aegle marmelos*), amaltas (*Cassia fistula*) and kachnar (*Bauhinia variegata*). The other trees found in the district are bahera (*Terminalia belerica*), harra (*Terminalia chebula*), khajur (*Phoenix sylvestris*), poola (*Kydia calycina*), etc.

The forests are generally open and contain little undergrowth. In dhao forests the undergrowth is chiefly grass, while elsewhere shrubs and small trees such as bankapasi (*Hibiscus lampus*), banchanwa (*Grewia hirsuta*), bhant (*Clerodendrum viscosum*), chakwar (*Cassia tora*), madar (*Calotropis brocera*) and rohini (*Mallopus phillippenis*) are to be found in large numbers.

## FAUNA

**Wild Animals**—Wild animals are found in greater number and variety than in the district south of the Ghaghara, and the species commonly met with in Gonda are generally the same as those occurring in Bahraich. In the forests of the north, the tigers (*Panthera tigris*), leopards (*Panthera pardus*), bears (*Melursus*

*ursinus*), and wolves (*Canis lupus*) are to be found, but their numbers have since the British rule greatly decreased due to various reasons. The sambhar (*Cervus unicolor*), spotted deer (*Axis maculatus*), hog-deer (*Axis procinus*) and nilgai (*Baselaphus tragocamelus*) are also found in the forests, while the last one is more numerous in the southern jungle of Nawabganj and in the lowlying tract along the Ghaghara river. The wild pig (*Sus scrofa*) abounds along the Ghaghara and throughout the forest area.

The other wild animals include the porcupine (*Hystrix indica*), monkeys (*Macaca mulatta*), jackals (*Canis aureus*), foxes (*Vulpes bengalensis*) and hares (*Lepus suseandatus*), which are to be found in all parts of the district.

Under ever increasing pressure of population the forests of the district were gradually cleared and the land brought under cultivation, leaving small area under forests. Thus, with the shrinkage of their natural habitat, consequent scarcity of food, game of slaughter on an unusually large scale by triggerhappy hunters, poaching and illegal shooting not only drove the animals deeper into the vastness of the jungle, where many species found the surroundings alien, but was also responsible for a considerable and rapid decline in their number, driving some of the species almost to the verge of extinction. Thus the black buck, which could once be frequently seen roaming the open countryside in large herds, is hardly to be found.

**Birds**—The birds of the district include all the species commonly found in the submontane tracts. The peacock (*Pavo cristatus*), jungle fowl (*Gallus sonneratti*), partridge (*Francolinus francolinus*) and common quail (*Turnix communis*) are to be found in great numbers. Large flocks of the hill pigeon come down from the highlands of Nepal during the cold season, and at the same time ortolan (*Hortulanus hortulus*) are very common in the plains at the edge of the jungle. Migratory water fowls of all descriptions visit the district during the winter months and are to be seen in almost every lake.

**Reptiles**—Snakes are common in the district, especially in the rural areas, the chief being the cobra (*Naja naja*), karait (*Bungarus caeruleus*), and rat-snake (*Ptyas mucosus*). Indian crocodile or naka (*Crocodylus palustris*) and the ghariyal (*Gavialis gangeticus*) are also found in the Ghaghara and Rapti rivers.

**Fish**—The rivers and lakes of the district abound in fish of many varieties. The various species met with are practically the same as those found throughout Avadh the more important species being rohu (*Lebeo rohita*), bhakur (*Catla catla*), nain (*Cirrhina mrigala*) parhin (*Wallagonia attu*), karaunch (*Lebeo calbasu*), tenaan (*Mystus seenghala*), patra (*Notopterus notopterus*), belagra (Rita rita), hesua (*Trigogaster*), chiliwa (*Chela bacaila*), mahseer (*Barbus spp.*), tengra (*Mystus spp.*) bam (*Rhynchopdella spp.*), etc.

**Game Laws**—The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and the U. P. Wild Life (Protection) Rules, 1974 have been enforced in the district, in order to protect wild life from ravages. The game laws have been made more stringent with a view to conserving and preventing extinction of certain species such as panther (*Panthera pardus*), tiger (*Panthera tigris*), elephant, swamp deer (*Cervus duvan-celi*), black buck (*Antelope cervicapra*), monal (*Lophophorus schteri*), peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*), four horned antelope (*Tetracerus quadri-cornis*), mugar (*Crocodylus palustris*) and gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*) etc.

Hunting license can be had from the chief wild life warden, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow or divisional forest officer concerned. All shooting during closed time i. e. from June to September is strictly prohibited in the government forests.

### CLIMATE

The year may be divided into four seasons. The cold season from about the middle of November to February is followed by the summer season from March to about the middle of June. The south-west monsoon season is from the middle of June to September. October and first half of November constitute the post-monsoon or transition season.

**Rainfall**—Records of rainfall in the district are available for five stations for a long period. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole given in statement I at the end of the chapter. The average annual rainfall in the district is 1153.1 mm. The rainfall in the district generally increases from the south-west towards the north-east and varies from 994.7 mm. at Mankapur to 1270.4 mm. at Gonda. About 88 per cent of the annual rainfall in the district is received during the south-west monsoon months from June to September, July being the month of heaviest rainfall. The variation in the annual rainfall from year to year is large. In the 50 year period from 1901 to 1950, the highest rainfall, 191 per cent of the normal occurred in 1938. The lowest annual rainfall, which was only 40 per cent of the normal occurred in 1907. In the 50 year period, the annual rainfall in the district was less than 80 per cent of the normal in nine years, two of them being consecutive. Considering the rainfall at the individual stations, two consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred three times at Gonda, twice at Tarabganj and once each at other two stations.

On an average there were 50 rainy days (i. e. day with rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more) in a year in the district. This number varied from 43 at Mankapur to 57 at Gonda observatory. The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district 428.0 mm. at Tarabganj on September 25, 1901.

The statement regarding the frequency of the annual rainfall in the district is given the following table for the period from 1901 to 1950.

Range in mm.	No. of years
401-500	1
501-600	0
601-700	2
701-800	1
801-900	3
901-1000	6
1001-1100	7
1101-1200	13
1201-1300	6
1301-1400	5
1401-1500	1
1501-1600	2
1601-1700	2
1701-1800	0
1801-1900	0
1901-2000	0
2001-2100	0
2101-2200	0
2201-2300	1

**Temperature**—There is a meteorological observatory in the district at Gonda. The records of this observatory may be taken as representative of the climatic conditions prevailing in the district in general. After the second week of February there is a steady increase in temperature. May is generally the hottest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at 39.9°C and the mean daily minimum at 25.6°C. The summer is intensely hot, and on individual days maximum temperature may be as high as 48°C. The heat-laden winds which blow on many days in the summer season particularly in the southern parts of the district make the weather very trying. Afternoon thunder-showers which occur on some days during the summer bring some relief, though only temporarily. With the advance of the monsoon into the district by about the middle of June there is appreciable drop in the day temperature. The nights during the monsoon season are nearly as warm as during the summer. There is a slight increase in day temperature during September but the nights become progressively cooler by the end of September. After October there is a rapid fall in both day and night temperatures. January is the coldest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at 22.9°C and the mean daily minimum at 8.3°C. In the winter season, cold waves affect the district in the wake of passing western disturbances and minimum temperature occasionally drops down to about a degree above the freezing point of water.

The highest maximum temperature recorded at Gonda was 49.9°C on May 8, 1958. The lowest minimum was 1.0°C on January 27 and 31, 1964.

**Humidity**—Generally mornings are highly humid except in the summer season humidities are between 35 and 50 per cent. In the south-west monsoon the relative humidity exceeds 75 per cent. In the rest of the year, humidity is comparatively less specially in

the afternoons. The most dry part of the year is summer when in the afternoons the relative humidities are less than 30 per cent. The details of temperature and humidity are given in statement II at the end of the chapter.

**Cloudiness**—In the south-west monsoon season and for brief spells of a day or two in the cold season when the district is affected by passing western disturbances heavily clouded or overcast skies prevail. In the rest of the year the skies are mostly clear or sometimes lightly clouded.

**Winds**—During the month of November winds are generally calm. The wind speed increases from December and reaches maximum strength during May and decreases later upto October. From November to April winds blow mostly from west or north-west. Easterlies which are practically absent during December gradually increase in frequency during mornings up till May when easterlies are most frequent. However, in the afternoons of May the winds are mostly from west or north-west. From June to September the easterlies are most frequent, during mornings and afternoons both. October is the month of transition when easterlies are most frequent during mornings and westerly and north-westerly in the afternoons.

The following statement shows the mean wind speed.

Month	Speed in km/hr.
January	3.9
February	5.1
March	6.5
April	7.4
May	7.7
June	7.3
July	6.4
August	5.2
September	4.6
October	3.0
November	2.4
December	2.8
Annual	5.2

**Special Weather Phenomena**—Occasionally thunder-storms occur in the later half of summer and the monsoon months. In association with the passing of western disturbances in the cold season occasional thunder-storms with hail occur. In the northern parts of the district fogs occur occasionally in the winter season.

The following statement shows the special weather phenomena for the district :

Mean No. of days with	Jan- uary	Feb- ruary	March	April	May	June	July	Aug- ust	Sept- ember	Octo- ber	Nov- ember	Decem- ber	Annual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Thunder	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2	3	3	3	2	1.0	0	0.3	1.8
Hail	0.1	0	0.1	0	0.1	0	0	0	0.1	0.4	0	0	0.8
Dust-storm	0.3	0	0	0.2	0.3	0.4	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	1.3
Squall	0	0	0	0	0	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.3
Fog	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.1	1.0	1.3



STATEMENT-1  
Rainfall

Reference page no. 11

Normal rainfall																			Extreme rainfall		
																			Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours		
Stations	No. of year of data	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal and years	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal and years	Amount (mm.)	Date			
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Gonda	50	a 16.5	20.8	10.2	7.1	26.2	143.3	361.7	329.7	241.8	49.5	5.8	6.6	1219.0	233	33	306.6	August 10, 1938			
Gonda	19	b 1.4	1.5	0.8	0.4	1.8	5.5	13.0	13.5	8.5	2.1	0.3	0.5	49.3	(1938)	(1907)					
(observatory)		a 21.8	20.1	9.4	11.9	29.6	171.7	344.2	352.7	244.6	54.9	3.5	6.0	1270.4	156	62					
Tarabganj	50	b 1.9	1.8	0.9	0.7	2.1	7.3	14.3	14.5	10.3	2.3	0.2	0.6	56.9	(1938)	(1941)	306.6	August 10, 1938			
		a 13.2	20.8	9.1	7.9	21.8	126.2	324.4	297.7	214.4	51.1	3.6	6.1	1096.3	172	47					
Utraula	50	b 1.3	1.7	0.9	0.6	1.6	6.0	13.6	13.9	8.1	1.9	0.3	0.6	50.5	(1938)	(1918)	428.0	August 20, 1887			
		a 17.0	18.8	11.4	9.9	32.5	161.8	358.4	312.7	194.1	56.4	6.9	5.3	1185.2	179	38					
Mankapur	20	b 1.6	1.6	0.9	0.7	2.4	6.9	13.5	13.5	7.9	2.1	0.3	0.6	52.0	(1938)	(1907)	304.8	September 25, 1901			
		a 12.5	14.7	6.9	6.3	11.2	99.8	300.0	283.2	206.3	43.2	5.3	5.3	994.7	221	64					
Gonda		b 1.2	1.1	0.4	0.4	1.0	4.5	12.3	12.5	7.5	1.8	0.1	0.6	43.4	(1938)	(1928)	411.5	August 10, 1938			
(District)		a 16.2	19.0	9.4	8.6	24.3	140.6	337.7	315.2	220.2	51.5	5.0	5.9	1153.1	191	40					
		b 1.5	1.5	0.8	0.6	1.8	6.0	13.3	13.6	8.5	1.0	0.2	0.6	50.4	(1938)	(1907)					

(a) Normal rainfall in m.m. (b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 m.m.) or more

## STATEMENT II

## Temperature and Relative Humidity

Reference page no.13

Temperature			Highest		Lowest		Humidity	
Mean daily maximum temperature C°	Mean daily minimum temperature C°	ever	recorded Date	ever Date	recorded Date	0830 Hours	Relative humidity	(*) 1730 Hours
January	22.9	8.3	28.9	January 27, 1946	1.0	January 27, 31, 1969	84	61
February	25.7	10.5	35.0	February 23, 1974	1.6	February 2, 1964	73	45
March	32.2	15.4	41.1	March 28, 1941	5.6	March 7, 1945	52	31
April	37.6	21.4	44.4	April 29, 1938	11.8	April 3, 1965	39	22
May	39.9	25.6	49.9	May 18, 1958	16.9	May 1, 1960	49	28
June	37.4	26.9	48.0	June 9, 1966	16.7	June 2, 1936	69	51
July	32.9	26.2	41.7	July 10, 1957	17.7	July 10, 1976	84	76
August	32.2	25.9	37.8	August 19, 1975	16.7	August 15, 1956	85	80
September	32.5	24.9	37.8	September 2, 1932	18.9	September, 29, 1950	82	76
October	32.1	20.0	37.2	October 17, 1951	12.2	October, 28, 1957	79	66
November	28.6	12.6	33.9	November 1, 1940	5.6	November 30, 1934	78	59
December	24.3	8.8	29.0	December 4, 1976	2.8	December 31, 1954	84	63
Annual	31.5	18.8	-	-	-	-	71	55

(\*) Hours-Indian Standard Time

## CHAPTER II

### HISTORY

#### ANCIENT PERIOD

The territory covered by the present district of Gonda formed part of the ancient kingdom of Kosala. After the death of Rama he celebrated sovereign of the Solar line, who ruled Kosala the kingdom was divided into two portions the northern and southern, the Ghaghara forming the boundry between the two.<sup>1</sup>

On the border of the district of Gonda and Bahraich lies a vast area of ruins known at the present day as Shet Mahet or Set Mahet or Sahet Mahet<sup>2</sup> represents the ancient site of Sravasti which covered the region comprising of both the districts of Gonda and Bahraich. The ancient history of both these districts therefore, is the history of Sravasti and region around it. It was the capital of Uttar-Kosala, about 16 km. from Balarampur, 83 km. north of Ayodhya and 1152 km. from Rajgir.<sup>3</sup> The town was founded by Sravasta, a king of Solar race. Sahet, the first member of the twin name, is applied to the site of Jetavana, while Mahet denotes the much larger site of the walled city of Sravasti. The name Sahet Mahet thus denotes not only the site of the city proper with that of Jetavana but also the adjoining areas of archaeological importance.<sup>4</sup>

The *Vayu Purana*<sup>5</sup> and *Uttarakhand* of the *Ramayana* speak of the two Kosala, and mention Sravasti as the capital of north Kosala and Kusavati as that of the south Kosala. The two Kosalas are said to have been once under the suzerainty of one and the same king, the epic hero Rama, who had installed

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1. Nevill, H. R. : *Gonda : A Gazetteer*, Vol. XLIV, *District Gazetteers of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh*. (Nainital, 1905), P. 137
  2. This is the correct spelling of the name according to local pronunciation. Cunningham gives the name as Sahet-Mahet, while Vincent A. Smith has Sahet-Mahet. Hoey changes it into Set-Mahet. Sahet is phonetically connected with Savatti, the Prakrit form of Sravasti and Mahet seems to have been coined as a ring-ling companion, as so often found in Indian place names.
  3. *Ramguana Uttara* ch. 107
  4. Law. B. C. : *Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India, Sravasti in Indian Literature*, (Delhi, 1935), p. 1
  5. *Vayu Purana*, (Ed.): by K.L. Mitra, Bib Indiae, Anandasrama Sanskrit Series Poona, (Calcutta, 1879)

his son Kusa in south Kosala with its capital Kusavati<sup>1</sup> at the foot of the Vindhya and his son Lava in north Kosala with Sravasti as its capital.

Sravasti is the Savatthi or Savatthipura of the Buddhists and Chandrapura or Chandrikapuri of the Jains. Savatthi is the Pali and Ardhamagadhi form of the Sanskrit name Sravasti. According to Buddhaghosha, the city of Savatthi was so called because it was originally the dwelling place of sage Savatha. According to the *Vayu Purana*, Sravasta was the sixth in descent from Vikukshi, son of Ikshvaku and his father's name was Andhra.<sup>2</sup> In the *Matsya* and *Brahma Puranas*<sup>3</sup>, however, Sravasta is mentioned as the son of Yuvanasva and the grandson of Adra<sup>4</sup>. The *Mahabharata* represents Sravastaka as the son of Srava and the grandson of Yuvanasva<sup>5</sup>. Several kings of Sravasti are mentioned in later Sanskrit texts.

The *Harsha-charita* of Bana for example, refers to Srutavarma who had once been the king of Sravasti. His kingdom is said to have been brought to ruin by his minister who had learnt the secrets from a *suka* (parrot) bird of Sravasti. The *Dasa-kumara-charita* of Dandin refers to another king Dharmavardhana of Sravasti who had a daughter named Navamalika. The *Kathasarit-sagara* of Somadeva refers to a king Devasena of Sravasti.

The city of Sravasti was situated on the bank of the Achiravati which is identified with modern Rapti. This kingdom figured prominently among the four powerful monarchies of northern India and its prosperity reached its zenith in Buddha's time. The history of this kingdom before the Buddha's advent is merely the story of its formation and steady rise through a prolonged struggle with its neighbours for supermacy, while that after his demise reduces itself to a narrative of its decline and pathetic downfall into insignificance<sup>6</sup>. Its last powerful king is referred to in Jaina literature with the exalted epithet *Jitasatru* (vanquisher of the enemy, the conqueror) and in the Buddhist tradition as Pasenadi Kosala (Prasenajit Kausalya) : Prasenajit and Jitasatru mean the same. The *Kathasarit-sagara* also refers to King Prasenjit of Sravasti who is said to have been born in the lineage of the grandmothers, Amba and Ambalika of the Kurus and the Pandavas.<sup>7</sup>

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1. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. (Ed.) : *The History And Culture of the Indian people, (The Age of Imperial Unity)*, Vol. II. (Bombay, 1960), p. 4
  2. *Vayu P. Ch.* 88, 24-26
  3. *Matsya Purana*, XII, 29-30; *Brahma Purana*, VII, 53
  4. *Bhagavata Purana*, Gita Press, (Gorakhpur, V. S. 2010), IX, 6, 20, 21
  5. *Mahabharata*, with Nilakantha's Commentary, in 6 Vols., Chitrasala Press (Poona, 1929), *Vanaparva*, 201-3, 4
  6. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 11
  7. *Ibid.*, p. 12

In the *Mahaparinibbana Suttanta* Savatthi is mentioned as one of the six principal cities of northern India, where many wealthy nobles, Brahmanas, and traders had strong faith in the Tathagata.<sup>1</sup>

In Buddhist times the district was included in the ancient capital of Kosala. It was one of the eight great places connected with the life of the Buddha and was held in special veneration by the Buddhists. It was the scene of the Great Miracle performed by the Buddha, and the monastery at Jetavana outside the city was for a number of years hallowed by the presence of the Master.<sup>2</sup> To the Buddhists Jetavana is the name of a Buddhist monastic establishment in the suburb of Savatthi (*Savathim upanissaya*) which perpetuates at the same time the noble deeds of Prince Jeta, the original owner of the site. It was at the Jetavana grove that Devadatta sent assassins to kill the Buddha who, however received them with great hospitality.<sup>3</sup> It was also here also that Bimbisara and Prasenajit met the Buddha and paid him homage. The same monastic institution is also represented as Anathapindika's *arama*. This later name was intended to perpetuate the memory and of Anathapindika, the purchaser of the site.<sup>4</sup>

Purvarama was the second and later Buddhist monastery erected in the neighbourhood of Sravasti, to the north-east of Jatavana at a short distance from it, by the pious lady Visakha, the daughter-in-law of the banker Migara (Mrgadhara) who was at first a staunch lay-supporter of the Ajivikas. She came to be honoured in Buddhist tradition as Migara-mata (mother of Migara for no other reason than that she was instrumental in winning over the banker from the Ajivikas and effecting his conversion to Buddhism.<sup>5</sup> The circumstances which eventually to the erection of the Purvarama monastery are related in the story of Visakha in the *Dhammapada Commentary*.<sup>6</sup> The materials used for the erection were both wood and stone (*rukkha pasana*). The monastery stood up as a magnificent two-storeyed building with five hundred rooms on the ground floor and an equal number of rooms on the upper floor.<sup>7</sup> It has traditionally been known by the name of Pubbarama Migar-amatupasada.

Besides these famous forests and groves there were many small and less noted ones. Ketakavana was one near the famous village Nalakapana of Kosala, where the Buddha preached the Nalakapana Jataka. Jalinavana was another within the Kosalan dominion, which happened to be the refuge of the noted desert Angulimala.<sup>8</sup>

1. *Ibid.*, p. 18

2. *Ibid.*, p. 1

3. *Ibid.*, p. 29

4. *Ibid.*, p. 23

5. *Ibid.*, p. 25

6. *Dhammpada Comentary*, Vol I, pp. 384-420

7. *Dhammpada Commentary*, Vol. I, p. 414

8. *Pathal. : History of Kosala up-to the Rise of the Mauryas*, (Varanasi, 1963), p. 81

Buddhist tradition tends to create the impression that the whole atmosphere of the city of Sravasti was surcharged with the influence of Buddha and Buddhism. It was in this city that the Buddha gave religious instructions to the citizens whose darkness of ignorance was thereby dispelled.<sup>1</sup> In another Jataka we are told that at Savatthi, in the house of Anathapindika, food was always kept ready for 500 brethren; the same thing is also told about Visakhā and the king of Kosala.<sup>2</sup>

Sravasti is the Chandrapuri or Chandrikapuri of the Jains, noted as the birth-place of their third *Tirthankara* Sambhavanatha and the eighth *Tirthankara* Chandraprabhanatha.<sup>3</sup> It was here that Mahavira met Mankhaliputta Gosala for the first time after their separation and after the latter had proclaimed himself as an independent teacher.<sup>4</sup> Mahavira visited the city more than once and was every time well-received.<sup>5</sup> He spent one rainy season at this place.<sup>6</sup> Nandinipriya, a wealthy house-holder and citizen of Sravasti became a lay-supporter of Jainism.<sup>7</sup>

Sravasti was also a strong-hold of Brahmanism. Nalajanghe and Sanjaya Akasagotta were the two Brahmanas attached to the royal family of Prasenjit. Bavari, a leader of the Jatilas, with his hermitage on the bank of the Godavari was honoured, as the Purohita to king Maha-kosala and to his son and successor Prasenjit.<sup>8</sup> Vedic sacrifices involving the slaughter of animal life, were regularly performed in the city under auspices of the king of Kosala.<sup>9</sup> Powerful Vedic institutions were maintained on royal grants and endowments, both within and outside the city of Sravasti.

With the downfall of the kingdom of Kosala begun the decline of Sravasti. Ananda Kumar Kassapa and other immediate disciples of the Buddha, who lived after his demise, carried on the preaching work in Sravasti, Tudigama, Sāvāya (subsequently known as Payasi or Bayasi), and other places in Kosala. The *Divyavadana* gives an account of Asoka's pilgrimage to Jetavana where he paid his worship at the four stupas one erected in honour of Sariputta and the remaining three in honour of Maudgalyayana, Mahakassapa and Anand. The sculptures of Bharhut and Bodhi-Gaya carved in the second and first centuries B. C. illustrate incidents which took place in Sravasti and Jetavana in Buddha's time. The two inscriptions of Bhikshu Bala, incised in the early Kushana Age, unmistakably show that the entire site of the Jetavana monastery came into the possession of the Buddhist sect Sravastivādins.<sup>10</sup>

1. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 27

2. Jataka, Eng. trans. Ed. by E. B. Cowell. 6 Vols. and, Index. (Cambridge, 1895-1907), Vol. IV, p. 91

3. Shah, : *Jainism in Northern India*, p. 26

4. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D., *op. cit.*, p. 414

5. *Kalpāsūtra subodhikā Tika*, pp. 103, 105, 106

6. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D., *op. cit.*, 415

7. *Uvasagadasao*, Ed. and Eng. trans. by A. F. R. Hoernle with commentary of Abhayadeva, 2 Vols., (Calcutta, 1889-90), *op. cit.*, p. 166-67

8. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 25

9. *Samyutta-Nikaya*, I, p. 76

10. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 30

During the first and second centuries A. D., Sravasti seems to have been under the sway of the Indo-Scythian rulers of Gandhara, as several inscribed statues of the Buddha dated in the regnal years of Kanishka and Huvishka, have been dug out of the ruined mounds at Sahet-Mahet.<sup>1</sup> Two other inscriptions of the Kushana period, found at Sahet-Mahet, expressly say that the Bodhistiva images installed at the site, were carved by the sculptors of Mathura.<sup>2</sup>

Later on, Sravasti was most likely under the rule of its own kings, as we find Khiradhara and his nephews mentioned as Rajas between A. D. and 319. Shortly afterwards it became a dependency of the powerful Gupta dynasty of Magadha, as Chandragupta II is undoubtedly the Vikramaditya of Sravasti, mentioned by Hiuen Tsang<sup>3</sup>, as a persecutor of Buddhists. To this monarch must also be ascribed the erection of the 100 Brahmanical temples which were standing at the time of Hiuen Tsang's visit. (From this time Sravasti began gradually declining "in A. D. 400")<sup>4</sup>

By the time of Fa-Hien's visit in the beginning of the 5th century A. D., there were "very few inhabitants", "altogether perhaps about two hundred families" in the city of Sravasti which was so populous in Buddha's time. Later on towering shrines were built, on the site of the ruined *vihara* of Mahaprajapati, on the foundations of the house of Sudatta-Anathapindika and on the spot where the dead body of Thera Angulimala was cremated.<sup>5</sup> The monastery, built by Sudatta, lay to the south of the ruined city. The main building of monastery had been seven-storeyed before it was reduced to ashes by accidental by fire.<sup>5</sup>

Though the Jetvana monastery had been ruined by fire and Purvarama erected by Visakha to the north of it was completely in ruin, yet Buddhism was not completely extinguished at Sravasti during the Gupta period<sup>7</sup>, and even later, as is proved by the discovery of a large number of baked and unbaked clay and lac seals and of broken statues bearing the Buddhist formula inscribed in Gupta characters as well as in Devanagari letters of the seventh and eighth centuries.

According to Hiuen Tsang, the kingdom of Kosala was known as the kingdom of Sravasti. The chief town was "desert and ruined" and there was "no record as to its limits".<sup>8</sup> There were several hundreds of *Sangharamas*, mostly in ruin, with very few religious followers, who studied the books of Sammatiya school of Buddhism. There were hundred Deva temples with

1. Fuhrer, A. : *The Monumental Antiquities And Inscriptions in the N. W. Provinces and Oudh*, (Delhi, 1891), p. 307

2. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 31

3. Fuhrer, A., *op. cit.*, p. 307

4. *Ibid.*

5. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 31

6. *Ibid.*

7. Fuhrer, A., *op. cit.*, p. 307

8. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 38

very many heretics. Within the old precincts of the royal city were some ancient foundations including the remains of the palace of king Prasenajit. The Jetavana Vihara lay to the south of the city Sravasti and it had two Asokan pillars at its eastern gate.<sup>1</sup> To the north-east of Jetavana was a stupa marking the spot where Buddha washed a sick *bhikshu* with water. To the north-west of it was a small stupa built in honour of Mudgalaputra with a well near it. By the side of it was a stupa built by Asoka enshrining the relics of the Buddha and marking the spot with a pillar.<sup>2</sup> At a little distance east of the Jetavana Vihara was another vihara about 18 metres high enshrining a sitting figure of the Buddha. Further east was a Deva temple of equal size with the vihara the temple which was no other than the one called "shadow-covered" by Fa-Hien.

Some inscriptions, written in Nagari characters, indicate that Jetavana remained a centre of Buddhism in the eighth or ninth century A. D.<sup>3</sup> Even as late as the twelfth century the great convent of Jetavana continued to be a centre of Buddhist learning and culture where lived a large community of Buddhist monks enjoying the royal favour of the king of Kannauj.

Thus from the days of the Buddha to about the middle of the 12th century A. D., Sravasti with its most important establishment, the Jetavana, continued to be the centre of Buddhism, linking up with it the vicissitudes of a great religion through a passage of about eighteen hundred years.<sup>4</sup>

The most interesting fact is the find of an inscribed slab<sup>5</sup> which shows that Buddhism was still professed at Sravasti even as late as the thirteenth century A. D. This inscription was found in 1885, buried under the ruins of a Buddhist building erected on the old site of Buddha's *vihara* in Jetavana. It records in (Vikrama) Samvat 1276, or A.D. 1219, the erection of a convent for Buddhist ascetics at the town of Ajavrisha by Vidyadhara, the fifth of six sons of Janaka and Jijja, and grandson of Bilvasina of the Sri Purva Vastavya family. Janaka, the father of Vidyadhara, is described as the counsellor of Gopala, the ruler of Gadhipura, or Kannauj; and Vidyadhara appears to have held a similar position under prince Madana, probably a successor of Gopala.<sup>6</sup> It also speaks of the Hindu Kingdom of Kannauj as if it were still in existence, though Jayachandra of Kannauj had been defeated and his capital taken by the Muslims in A. D. 1193.

Jainism seems to have been very strong at Sravasti in the eleventh century A. D., as several statues of Tirthankaras, dated

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1. *Ibid.*, p. 33

2. *Ibid.*, p. 32

3. *Ibid.*, p. 33

4. *Ibid.*

5. Fuhrer, A., *op. cit.*, p. 308

6. *Ibid.*



in the years 1112, 1124, 1125, 1133 and 1182 of the Vikrama Samvat have been excavated at Sahet-Mahet, and are now in the Lucknow Museum. Suhridhvaja, the contemporary of Mahmud of Ghazni and the opponent of Saiyid Salar Masaud, is said to have been the last of the Jain rulers of Sravasti. With the conquest of India by Muhammad Ghuri the history of Sravasti came to an end.

### MEDIEVAL PERIOD

The first Muslim invasion of the region north of Ghaghara took place in the second quarter of 11th century under Sayad Salar Masud, son of Salar Sahu, the general of Mahmud of Ghazni.<sup>1</sup> The rulers of Gonda and adjoining parts were much perturbed to find a foreigner in their country but soon they formed a confederacy, and decided to offer united resistance to Masud.<sup>2</sup> In the meantime, Suhil Deo of Sahet Mahet, who was known for his valour, joined them at this critical hour<sup>3</sup>, which proved fruitful. He is said to have forewarned Masud, "that if he wished to save his life he had better leave that country and go elsewhere, as the land belonged to their ancestors, and they were determined to drive him from it."<sup>4</sup> Masud, thereupon, sent a brief and simple reply. the country is God's, and the property of him on whom He bestows it. Who gave it to your fathers and ancestors.<sup>5</sup> The council of war decided Masud to remain on the defensive, but the Hindus drove off his cattle and forced an attack. Many Truks suffered death from fireworks and the insidious spikes. The loss was great on both sides and one third of Muslim army perished.<sup>6</sup> During the month of June 1033, continuous fighting went on. Two-thirds of what remained of the Muslims were slain, and among them Saif-ud-din, the Kotwal of the army.<sup>7</sup> In spite of many vicissitudes Masud did not lose courage and while making a bid to mount his horse to repel the attack, his body-guard was attacked by Suhil Deo and his men. An arrow pierced the main artery in Masud's arm resulting in his death and the remnant of his body guard was cut to pieces by Suhil Deo<sup>8</sup> on June 14, 1033. Thus ended this singular invasion and Islam was in abeyance in Avadh until the conquest of Shihab-ud-din Ghuri in 1193. According to tradition, Ashokpur in this district, was the scene of another fight in which Hatila Pir, a nephew of Sayad Salar, was killed in storming the Hindu temple of Ashoknath Mahadeo.<sup>9</sup> This was an old temple which is said to have been built by Suhil Deo and was replaced by the tomb of Hatila Pir.<sup>10</sup>

1. Irwin, R. C. : *The Garden of India*, (Lucknow), Vol I, p. 59

2. *Ibid.*, p. 62

3. Nevill, H. R. : *Gonda : A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1921), p. 133

4. Irwin, H. C. : *op. cit.*, p. 62

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

7. *Ibid.*, p. 63

8. *Ibid.*

9. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 138

10. *Ibid.*, pp. 138, 178

It seems probable that Sultan Iltutmish effected the subjugation of lands as far as Avadh and Bahraich and the districts north of Ghaghara including Gonda.<sup>1</sup> From this time onward Gonda and Bahraich seem to have always been held singly owing to its isolated position due to river Ghaghara.<sup>2</sup> Sultan Iltutmish appointed his eldest son Malik Nasir-ud-din Mahmud, as governor of Avadh in 1226. According to Minhaj-us-Siraj, the author of *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*, this prince overthrew and reduced to submission the Bhars under whose sword more than one hundred and twenty thousand Muslims had perished.<sup>3</sup> These Bhars who resisted the prince were presumably none else than the local people of districts of Gonda and Bahraich.

The district is historically and geographically linked with Bahraich from time immemorial. In the second half of the 13th century Gonda was included in the government of Bahraich by the early Muslim rulers, and hence has no independent history of its own.<sup>4</sup> The government of Bahraich was separate from that of its Avadh<sup>5</sup> for Imam-ud-din Rihan, the disgraced vizir of Sultan Nasir-ud-din Mahmud was relegated to his fief of Bahraich in 1254, while at the same time Avadh was held by Qutlaugh Khan.<sup>6</sup> Imam-ud-din Rihan was succeeded in his fief by Malik Taj-ud-din Sanjar about 1255.<sup>7</sup>

There is no specific reference about the district till the reign of the Tughluqs probably on account of its inclusion in the government of Bahraich.<sup>8</sup> Nevertheless, the district of Gonda provided a free passage to Sultans of Delhi who usually marched through these districts on way to the eastern parts of their empire. The road from Bahraich to Ayodhya lay through Gonda and Khurasa and was frequently traversed by the sultans and their army.<sup>9</sup> Gonda and Khurasa did not find mention in historical records till the reign of Ghiyas-ud-din Tughluq, who is said to have received the submission of the local chieftains on his march to the eastern parts (1323).<sup>10</sup> In 1353, Feroz Shah Tughluq took the same route and it is said that the raja of Khurasa accompanied him to Lakhnauli.<sup>11</sup> In 1394, the district appears to have come under the sway of Khwaja Jahan Malik Sarwar, the founder of the Sharqi dynasty of Jaunpur, who held the

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1. Habibullah, A. B. M. : *The Foundation of Muslim Rule in India*, (Allahabad, 1961), p. 104
  2. Irwin, H. C. : *op. cit.*, p. 66
  3. Habibullah, A. B. M., : *op. cit.*, p. 104, Nevill, H. R. : *Bahraich : A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1903), p.119
  4. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 140;  
Irwin, H. C. : *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 66
  5. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 140
  6. Habibullah, A. B. M. : *op. cit.*
  7. Nevill, H. R. : *Bahraich : A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1903), p. 120, Habibullaah, *op. cit.*, p. 127
  8. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 140
  9. *Ibid.*
  10. Elliot and Dowson, : *The History of India as told by its own Historians*, Vol III, p. 294; Nevill, H. R. *Gonda : A Gazetteer*, p. 140
  11. Elliot and Dowson, : *op. cit.*, Vol III. p. 294

charge of eastern parts including Bahraich<sup>1</sup> and most probably Gonda. The Sharqis held sway over Bahraich<sup>2</sup> and presumably Gonda till 1478 when Bahlul Lodi appointed Kala Pahar Farmuli at Bahraich.

In order to assert his authority, Kala Pahar led attacks on the adjoining districts probably Gonda and succeeded in obtaining permanent hold over the country.<sup>3</sup> During the reign of Sikandar Lodi too, he probably held the charge of Bahraich till 1486, the year when he deserted his sovereign and became an ally of Barbak Shah of Jaunpur.<sup>4</sup>

From earliest days of Muslim domination down to the advent of Akbar, the history of the district is primarily the history of local clans, while some of them migrated into this district during this period. During the early phase of this period the whole of Gonda was ruled by low caste aborigines-Doms, Tharus, Bhars, Pasis and the like.<sup>5</sup> Tradition states that the Jain dynasty of Sahet Mahet gave place to the Doms of Domangarh on the bank of Rapti in Gorakhpur, and that of this race came Ugarsen, a notable raja who built Domariadih, once a town, situated on the road from Gonda to Faizabad. The Ugarsen brought misfortune for himself by demanding in marriage the daughter of a Brahmana<sup>6</sup>. This insult was avenged by a valiant Kayastha named Rai Jagat Singh, who came from Sultanpur with a large force and overthrew the Dom. The year of this incident is traditionally given as 1376.<sup>7</sup>

This story is told as a prelude to the early Rajput domination of the south of the district. The first clans of whom mention is made, are the Bandhalgoties, Kalhans, and Bais. Of the later nothing is known, and they are presumed to be of indigenous origin. The Bandhalgotis settled in pargana Nawabganj and thence spread in north into Mahadeva and Mankapur where they established an independent principality, which flourished for many generations. The pargana was given in reward to one Nawal Sah of Amethi in district Sultanpur who had accompanied Rai Jagat Singh and had distinguished himself in the capture of Ramanpur.<sup>8</sup> Another story relates that the same Rai Jagat Singh gave Mahadeva to one Sahaj Singh of Gujarat, the founder of the Kalhans' plan in this district. He is said to have joined the rebellion of Baha-ud-din of Malwa against Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq, and on its suppression fled for refuge to his friend Ain-ud-din of Karra.<sup>9</sup>

1. Sirhindi, Yahya bin Ahmad bin Abdullah : *The Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi*, Eng. Trans. by K. K. Basu (Baroda, 1932), p. 165; Mehdi Husain, *op.cit.*, p. 257

2. Nevill, H. R. : *Bahraich : A Gazetteer*, p. 124

3. Lal, K. S. : *Twilight of the Sultanate*, (Bombay 1963), p. 165; Nevill, H. R. : *Bahraich : A Gazetteer*, p. 124

4. Lal, K. S. : *op. cit.* p. 165

5. Nevill, H. R. : *Gonda : A Gazetteer* . p. 139

6. *Ibid.*

7. *Ibid.*

8. *Ibid.*

9. *Ibid.* pp. 139-140

The descendants of Sahaj Singh established a powerful kingdom with headquarters at Khursa, which extended over the whole of the south of the district. Under their protection various other Rajput colonies sprang up, such as the Bisens of Qila Rampur in Digsir and Gauraha Bisens of Mahadeva, both of whom claim connection with the famous Bisen house of Majhauri in Deoria. Gunwarich was apparently absorbed by the great Raikwar houses of Baundi and Ramnagar, while in the north the Janwars of Ikauna were beginning to make their influence felt in the lands south of the Rapti. Another house was that of Sarwaria Brahmanas, who appear to have settled in the southern parganas from very remote times. The Kalhans appear to have maintained their hegemony between the Ghaghara and Kuwana for several centuries, the family pedigrees differing in showing seven and thirteen generations between Sahaj Singh and the last Raja of Khurasa.<sup>1</sup>

The last Kalhan ruler of Khurasa was Achal Narain Singh. He is said to have been a great warrior, and came to Avadh with the army of Dariao Khan, the founder of Daryabad in Bara Banki. He enlarged his property greatly and spread his victorious arms beyond the Ghaghara. His end was due to his unbridled authority and oppression, which culminated in the abduction of a Brahmana girl, the daughter of one Ratan Pande. The latter pleaded in vain for reparation, and died after sitting at the door of the raja's palace for twenty-one days. It is said that with his dying breath he cursed the raja and his threat of vengeance was fulfilled by the utter destruction of the raja's palace and the town of Khurasa in an inundation of the river Saryu. A more prosaic version of the story attributes the downfall of the raja to his arrears of revenue due to Mubariz Khan Adili in 1554, for which Ratan Pande had stood security.<sup>2</sup>

With the fall of Kalhans came a general redistribution of territory. Bhiring Sah, the son of Achal Narain Singh, fled eastward and founded the estate of Babhanipur and Rasulpur Ghaus of Basti; Maharaj his other son went to Dehras in Gunwarich and there laid the foundations of the great property held by the Kalhans of the Chhedwara. The Bandhalgotis strengthened their position in Mankapur and refused to acknowledge a suzerain; the Janwars in the north extended their possessions, which developed in course of time into the vast estate of Balrampur.<sup>3</sup> The Gauraha Bisens in Mahadeva became practically independent; and other Bisens in Digsir rose from their low estate to a position which soon overshadowed that of the other clans. As a result the wide tract of country held by Achal Narain Singh passed almost at once into the hands of Digsir Bisens. Later Pratap Singh, of Gauhani, who was Chaudhuri of pargana Khurasa near Gonda and his brother Sarabjit Singh chief officer of the raja's army, took advantage of the opportunity offered and became the rulers of the estate. It was at this period that the town of Gonda came into existence and foundation was laid

1. Ibid. p. 140

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.

of the Bisen's raj that is so closely connected with the history of the district till the advent of the British rule.<sup>1</sup>

The district formed an integral part of Akbar's empire (1556-1605) and was divided between the sirkars of Avadh, Bahraich and Gorakhpur in the subah of Avadh.<sup>2</sup> The Bahraich sirkar contained eleven *mahals* but most of these lay undoubtedly within the limits of the present district of that name. It seems probable that Hisampur extended into Gonda and included most of pargana Paharapur and part of Gunwarich. The eastern boundary of *mahal* Bahrah also probably extended into Balrampur. But one *mahal* going by the name of Kharonsa, which is almost certainly a corruption of Khurasa, undoubtedly lay within the Gonda district and apparently comprised all the land between the Tehri and Kuwano rivers stretching as far as the Utraula boundary.<sup>5</sup> The sirkar of Gorakhpur, on the otherhands included 24 *mahals* and comprised the whole of present district of Gorakhpur and Basti as well as the bulk of Gonda.<sup>6</sup> The *mahal* of Utraula then comprised the parganas of Utraula Sadullanagar, and Burhapara, and their sub-division did not occur till many years after, when it was effected by a partition between the different members of the Utraula house.<sup>7</sup> The single *mahal* of Gunwarich or Gawarchak, as it is written in the *Ain-i-Akbari* for some reason and other belonged to the sirkar of Avadh.<sup>8</sup> Possibly because this *mahal* was the grazing ground for the subahdar's cattle, from which the name is said to have been derived. This *mahal* included the present Gunwarich and most of digsir; possibly, too Paharapur<sup>9</sup>. All these *mahals* fetched substantial revenue of the district.

Ali Khan, (son of Ahmad Khan the Kakar Pathan of Mantua in Muzaffarnagar and a man of position in the service of Bahlul Lodi) who had established himself at Utraula in 1552 after defeating a confederacy of Hindu chiefs persistently refused to recognise the Mughal rule and withheld the payment of revenue.<sup>10</sup> The subahdar of Avadh thereupon set out to bring the refractory chief to order, but he still refused to submit. Thereupon in 1571 his son Sheikhan Khan, in order to save the estate, submitted and proceeded against his father at the head of a considerable force. Ali Khan came out to meet him and a battle ensued between father and son at Sarai in Sadullanagar. This battle resulted in the death of Ali Khan, whose head was sent to Delhi, where it was kept hanging at Ajmer gate for sometime. Another account states that Sheikhan Khan joined the side of Akbar, while his father sided with the rebel Ali Quli Khan,

1. *Ibid.*, p. 141

2. Abul Fazl : *Ain-i-Akbari*, Eng. trans. by H. S. Jarret, (Calcutta, 1949), Vol. II, pp. 184 to 187; Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 142

3. Abul Fazl. *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 187, Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 142

4. *Ibid.*, p. 142

5. Abul Fazl : *op. cit.*, p. 187; Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 142

6. Abul Fazl : *op. cit.*, p. 186; Nevill, *op. cit.*, pp. 142-143

7. *Ibid.*, p. 143

8. Abul Fazl : *op. cit.*, p. 185

9. Nevill, H. R. *op. cit.*, p. 143

10. *Ibid.*, p. 104

Khan Zaman, and died fighting against the imperial forces. Sheikhan Khan was reawarded with the remarkable title of Sri Khan-i-Azam Masnad Ali, and afterwards returned to Utraula with his father's head and a firman granting him the zamindari rights of the pargana. He was succeeded by Daud Khan, a noted warrior, who on one occasion extended his raids as far as Bhinga in Bahraich, due to a quarrel with the Janwar chieftain for the possession of a noted courtesan.<sup>1</sup> He left two sons, of whom the elder Alwal Khan, carved out a new estate for himself by wresting Burhapara from the Kalhans of Babbnipair; while the younger, Adam Khan, remained at Utraula and exchanged the old title of Malik for that of Raja.<sup>2</sup>

During the early years of Aurangzeb's reign or in 1659, Adam Khan was succeeded by his son, Salem Khan, who ruled Utraula with distinction upto 1699. He was connected by marriage with the Janwars of Ikauna, and was the most powerful of the allies of the Bisen rajas of Gonda. On account of family feuds. Salem Khan later divided his whole property among his four sons, one share being kept by him for himself.<sup>3</sup> The whole estate then comprised the Utraula and Sadullanagar parganas, and the total revenue demand was Rs 74,264.

Man Singh, the reputed founder of Gonda and successor of Achal Narain Singh, the Kalhan raja, mentioned before, is presumed as the contemporary of Jahangir (1605-1627). The story goes that in 1618 he presented to the emperor a fine elephant at Ajmer and in reward obtained the title of raja. This imperial favour is attributed to the prosperity of Bisens who flourished unhindered in their estate for considerably a long period.<sup>4</sup> Man Singh was followed by a number of successors whose reigns were for the most part uneventful and were chiefly distinguished by a peaceful extension of cultivation by the various colonies of the clan.<sup>5</sup> In 1665, Raja Ram Singh, a Bisen in the same line, came to the throne and his reign marked a period of prosperity for the clan. He promptly carried a war with the Janwars and destroyed their fort at Bhatpuri around 1665 and succeeded in ejecting them from that tract. He then turned his attention to the west and drove out the Raikwars from the lowlands, annexing 74 villages, which were formed into a new pargana of Paharapur. Raja Ram Singh died in 1693 and was succeeded by his elder son, Raja Dutt Singh who rose to be the most powerful of the chieftains north of the Ghaghara. His first expedition is said to have been against the Pathans of Bahraich in revenue for an outrage of a Brahmana women. He then turned his arms south wards and with the help of the Pathans of Utraula he conquered and annexed Paraspur and Ata and thus the boundary of the Bisens was fixed to the south of the town of Paraspur.<sup>6</sup> The extent of his dominions was the whole of the Paraspur, Gonda, Digsir, Mahadeva and a part of Gunwarich.

1. *Ibid.*

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*, p. 105

4. *Ibid.*, p. 145

5. *Ibid.*, pp. 145-146

6. *Ibid.*, p. 146

## MODERN PERIOD

It was not long after, however, that the Bisens were threatened in an unlooked for direction Saadat Khan's policy in Avadh seems to have been to cherish the peasantry, and to keep in check the encroachments of the larger landholders; and he was probably the first to make the power of a Central Government felt throughout the province.<sup>1</sup> With the intention of reducing to submission the most powerful of the local chieftains Saadat Khan appointed Alawal Khan, an Afgan of Bahraich, as in charge of the country beyond the Ghaghara. Alawal Khan on his first visit to Gonda insulted the raja, who was of small stature by lifting him off his feet while embracing him. Datt Singh reciprocated by presenting in place of his brother; one Bhairon Raj, a gigantic Gauraha Bisen, of Mahadewa, who returned the compliment in the same manner. After this incident the raja of Gonda refused to pay revenue, and Alawal Khan was sent with a big force to Gonda. Crossing the river Ghaghara at Paska, he was joined by the Kalhans, with whose aid he stormed the Paska fort and then defeated a Brahman contingent at Malauna. Advancing towards Gonda, he compelled Datt Singh to temporize, because most of his troops were absent at Debi Patan; but after a short delay the raja collected his forces and a fierce encounter took place at Sarbhangpur in pargana Paharapur. Alawal Khan was killed by Bhairon Rai and the nawab's forces fled.<sup>2</sup> Bhairon Rai was rewarded with the zamindari of Mahadewa, and Datt Singh regained his position; though not for long. Shortly afterwards Gonda was besieged by a second army but the siege was eventually raised on the arrival of a large force of Bisens of Ramapur in the north of the pargana. The raja then came to terms with the government and agreed to pay revenue, but his territories were made into a separate jurisdiction, independent of the *nazim* of Bahraich.<sup>3</sup> This arrangement did not curtail Datt Singh's power but rather his power increased. He managed to place his brother, Bhawani Singh, in possession of the Janwar estate of Bhinga, which henceforth was held by the Bisens. He also seized the Bandhalgoti raj of Mankapur and gave it to his younger son, Azmat Singh who was still an infant.<sup>4</sup> So great was his influence that all the chieftains north of Ghaghara, except of course Nanpara acknowledged him as suzerain and brought their forces into the field at his command. Between the Ghaghara and the Kuwana the Bisen raja had no rival, and power remained in the hands of his descendants till the advent of British rule.<sup>5</sup>

Datt Singh was succeeded by his elder son raja Udit Singh, who like his father retained the engagement of the whole of his estate as a separate revenue division under the Lucknow government.<sup>6</sup> He was more given to religion than to war, and made several expeditions to Mathura and other places of pilgrimage. He is remembered as the builder of the temples on the artificial island

1. Irwin H. C. : *Garden of India*, (Lucknow, 1973), p. 68

2. Nevill, H. R. : *Gonda: A Gazetteer*, (Naini Tal, 1905).

*Ibid.*

*Ibid.*

*Ibid.*

*Ibid.* p. 148

and lake between the town of Gonda and the station. Raja Udit Singh had two sons, Mangal Singh and Pahlwan Singh, of whom the former married a Kalhans of Paraspur. Peace was then made between the two clans, and the land which had been taken from the Kalhans by Datt Singh was restored.<sup>1</sup> Datt Singh was succeeded by Mangal Singh. The reign of Mangal Singh was very short. He had been invited to arbitrate between the two sons of the raja of Bansi, and while absent in Basti was murdered by Zalim Singh, a Surajbansi of Amarha, a partisan of one of the claimants. His son, Sheo Parshad Singh, who succeeded him, at once marched into Amorha and laid the pargana waste, and annexed the same to his own dominions. He was a peaceful and prudent prince and retained the whole of his ancestral possessions. He was succeeded by his son, raja Jai Singh, who refused to pay the customary tribute, and incurred the wrath of the authorities as he interfered in the work of an English officer who had been sent to assist the *nazim* in the collection of the revenue and who had established salt and indigo works at Gauhani (in Digsir).<sup>2</sup>

Raja Jai Singh resented violation of his territories as a personal insult, and took up arms against the Avadh government. The result was a short and decisive battle on the banks of the river Terhi, in which Jai Singh was defeated.<sup>3</sup> He fled to the hills, where he died, while his wives could be saved with difficulty by their Pande bodyguard. Rani Phul Kunwar, though for some time managed to exercise her authority over the domain, later on she adopted Guman Singh grandson of Pahlwan Singh. However, his uncle Hindupat Singh objected and compelled the rani to fly; and while crossing the Bisuhi, she was murdered by him (Hindupat), who also endeavoured though unsuccessfully to secure the person of Guman Singh. After a short time the latter was induced to leave his hiding place at Ayodhya and went to Gonda, where his life was preserved through the vigilance of the Pandes, Mardan Ram, and Bokhtawar Ram, the sons of Bhawan Datt, the banker, who had come to Gonda from Ikauna during the reign of Sheo Parshad. Eventually, after several attempts had been made on the life of Guman Singh, the Pandes attacked Hindupat Singh and murdered him and his whole family. Though Guman Singh became raja yet on account of his youth and the disturbances that attended his accession, the revenue officials stepped in, and Nirmal Das brother of the famous minister, Tikait Rai, who was then at Bahraich, marched with a large force to Gonda and took the estate under his direct management.<sup>4</sup> He seized Guman Singh and sent him in custody to Lucknow. There he remained in confinement till he invited the interest of the celebrated Mahant Jagjiwan Das of Kotwa in Bara Banki, who was the founder of the Sattنامi sect who was a person of great influence. It was his intercession, which secured the release of the raja. He subsequently gave him in marriage his daughter, Bhagwant Kunwar, a lady of great ability. Bhagwant Kunwar survived the whole of her husband's family. Guman Singh returned

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1. *Ibid.*

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*, p. 149



to Gonda and was allowed for his subsistence 32 villages and a cash assignment in the revenue. He lived on good terms with the officials, and from time to time added the engagement of other villages to those which he held in Nankar. When he died in 1836, he left a large estate and considerable wealth but no son.<sup>1</sup> A short interregnum ensued, and the Pandes favoured the cause of Sanumam Singh, son of Madho Singh of Mahnon. However, eventually the widow of Saif-ud-daula, who was then *nazim*, placed on the throne Debi Bakhsh Singh, son of Daljit Singh, the younger brother of the late raja.<sup>2</sup> This prudent and active prince built a strong fort at Jigna in the east of the pargana: from where he managed his estate. He increased his property rapidly, disallowing any interference between him and the cultivators of his land. By marrying a daughter of the raja of Bhadawar, he formed an alliance with one of the highest Rajput families in northern India.

As has been mentioned earlier Gonda was brought under the direct management of the Muhamnadan rulers when Guman Singh had become the raja of Gonda. The old fiscal arrangements of Akbar's time had been maintained till the days of Asaf-ud-daula, who instituted the division into *nizamat* and *chklas*. The parganas of Gonda, Paharapur, Digsir, and Mahadewa formed the Bisen estate, while Gunwarich was a part of the Bahraich *nizamat* while the remainder of the district a part of Gorakhpur.<sup>3</sup>

In 1773 the Gonda estate was made over to the Bahu Begam in jagir and till 1799 it was managed by her eunuch, Darab Ali Khan but it was not till 1793 that he could collect revenue, as prior to that date it was paid as a lump sum by the raja.<sup>4</sup> In the beginning of the nineteenth century Nirmal Das, an able administrator who had held Bahraich previously, managed the Begam's jagir.<sup>5</sup> From 1806 to 1816 the estate was in the hands of five different persons, the last being Mardan Ram, one of the Pande brothers who removed Hindupat Singh. Of the Gonda *nazims* the most famous was Mehndi Ali Khan, who held charge from 1808 to 1810, and the Kayasth Rai, Amar Singh from 1812 to 1817.<sup>6</sup> In 1816 the Gonda estate was incorporated in the *nizamat* and Mehndi Ali Khan returned in 1818. The district flourished under his rule. Two years later he lost the contract through the jealousy of his rivals, and Gonda was held by fourteen *nazims* in twenty years, the most noteworthy of these were raja Darshan Singh in 1837 and again in 1842 and 1843; Raghubar Dayal Singh in 1846 and the succeeding year; Inchha Singh in 1848, and maharaja Man Singh of the same family in 1851.<sup>7</sup> Muhammad Hasan held the district for two years and afterwards assumed the position of *nazim* in Gorakhpur. The last to hold office in Gonda-Bahraich was Rai Sadhan Lal, from 1853 to the date of annexation.<sup>8</sup>

1. *Ibid.*, p. 155

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*, p. 149

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*, p. 150

6. *Ibid.*

7. *Ibid.*

8. *Ibid.*

As to the system of administration during the entire Avadh rule the history of the district resolves itself into a series of independent accounts, connected with the great taluqdari houses. Though the other local chieftains were rapidly growing in power and importance the interest still centred round Gonda and its rajas. By the beginning of the nineteenth century the power of Utraula had been broken and the revenue officials made their collections direct from every village in the pargana.<sup>1</sup> Balrampur and Tulsipur held out, and though frequently defeated in the field managed to maintain their position and were let off with a lump assessment on the whole estate.<sup>2</sup> The less powerful taluqdars of Mankapur and Babhnipair were, on the other hand, seldom allowed to collect rent in their villages, they paid the revenue in a lump sum to the *nazim*. Only the leading hereditary chieftains enjoyed supremacy within the territorial limits of their estates, and as long as they retained that position the formation of the mushroom taluqas, so common elsewhere, by revenue farmers was impossible within the spheres of their influence. When the Gonda and Utraula estates were broken up and held directly by official collectors, such a process became natural. It was more due to the reason that the *nazims* found it convenient and often necessary to let out large number of villages to wealthy individuals. The dispossessed rajas attempted to form taluqas for themselves in this way. The Bisens thus acquired the magnificent estate of Bishambarpur; the Pathans also succeeded for a while, but eventually failed to combine the position of farmers with that of feudal lords and had to content themselves with a few villages assigned to them for their support.<sup>3</sup> Elsewhere, as in Gunwarich the hereditary chieftains retained both their ancestral estates and also added to them by contracting for villages of their neighbours. In this way the Kalhans of the Chhedwara acquired, by the favour of the *nazims*, most of the lands formerly held by the Saiyids of Jarwal in Bahraich.<sup>4</sup> But the only great taluqas formed in this fashion were those of the Pandes of Gonda, who were not only wealthy but also very powerful in the district.

The *nazims* under Avadh government had played an important role. They were so powerful that their individual character and disposition, especially in the case of those who held office for several years, left a strong impression on the history of the district. Hadi Ali Khan, better known by his title Nawab Saif-ud-daula who ruled the district for over twelve years, was a good example of a Muhammadan governor could be under favourable circumstances. He kept good relations with the great chieftains, and while treating them leniently, maintained law and order and also secured a certain measure of justice. He also maintained sufficient force to make his orders respected.<sup>5</sup> Three years after the death of Hadi Ali Khan, his widow, Waith-un-nissa attempted to carry on the *nizamat*, but though she showed great bravery, leading the troops herself in battles, the chiefs could not be kept in obedience by a

1. *Ibid.*, p. 150

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*, p. 151

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*, pp. 151-152

woman, and on her defeat at the hands of the raja of Bhinga she resigned.<sup>1</sup> Darshan Singh though not unjust to cultivators, had no mercy on the aristocratic classes which stood between the government and the realization of the rent. By dispossessing the taluqdars all over the district he raised the revenue to an unprecedented height. Raja Devi Bakhsh Singh of Gonda had to fly to avoid being captured and compelled to sign one of the so called deeds of sale of his estate.<sup>2</sup> The raja of Balrampur was, in the same way, driven into exile, and the violation of the Nepal territory by Darshan Singh in his pursuit finally caused his dismissal from the post of *nazim*.<sup>3</sup> His son Raghubar Dayal Singh succeeded him three years later. He was a tyrant of the worst description, who disgraced the Avadh government and ruined both high and low in his indiscriminate extortions. After the expiry of his term he was followed by Incha Ram, his uncle, and afterwards Man Singh, another son of Darshan Singh. He followed the footsteps of his father. During the years of their incumbency the policy of the members of this family was to raise the revenue demand to a height, which the village communities found it impossible to pay resulting in the accrual of the inevitable arrear. As many defaulters, in this way, as could be found were brought into the *nazim's* office and compelled to liquidate the balance by signing a deed acknowledging it as the purchase price for their village having been sold for that amount to the *nazim*. In this way a very large estate in Digsir, Gunwarich and Nawabganj was acquired by the *nazim* at absolutely no cost whatsoever.<sup>4</sup> Rai Sadhan Lal, the last *nazim*, held the district for three and a half years immediately preceding annexation. He was a servant of raja Krishn Datt Ram Pande, and acted virtually according to his wishes.<sup>5</sup>

In Utraula a series of six rajas, Salem Khan, Pahar Khan, Purdil Khan, Tarbiat Khan, Sadullah Khan, and Imam Bakhsh Khan, continued the line of the Kakar Pathans from 1659 to the time of great famine in 1783.<sup>6</sup>

In 1659 Salem Khan succeeded his father, Adam Khan, and ruled Utraula with distinction for fortyseven years.<sup>7</sup> He established marriage connections with the Janwars of Ikauna and was recognised as the most powerful ally of the Bisen rajas of Gonda. His domestic feuds embittered his last days, as he had first to quell the rebellion of his nephew, Bahadur Khan, in Burapara, and then his sons quarrelled for their prospective shares.<sup>8</sup> The raja tried to subside the conflict by proclaiming the eldest son, Fateh Khan, as his successor, but the discontentment among others was not satisfied. This, ultimately, resulted in the division of the estate into five shares, of which the raja reserved one for himself and one for each of his four sons while the fifth son Ghalib Khan, got only five villages.<sup>9</sup> The whole estate then comprised the Utra-

1. *Ibid.*, p. 152

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. Bennett, W. C.: *The Final Settlement Report of the Gonda District*, (Allahabad, 1878), p. 33

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*, p. 26

7. Nevill H. R. *op. cit.*, pp. 104-105

8. *Ibid.*, p. 105

9. *Ibid.*

greatly to their political education. By February 1922 it was however, observed at the summit level of the Congress that the movement, in spite of its apparent and widespread enthusiasm, was grinding to a halt as almost all leading persons had been arrested, and the masses had so far received little training to carry on by themselves.<sup>1</sup> These factors combined with the Chauri Chaura incident resulted in a sudden suspension of the movement<sup>2</sup>. The activities, however, in some form or the other, continued in the district. A district political conference was organised in the district in 1924. Mrs. Sarojini Naidu toured the district from June 2 to 4 in 1926 and urged people to foster unity, weave khadi and work for Swaraj. The normalcy which had marked the district after suspension of the Non-cooperation movement in 1922, was disturbed when Rajendra Nath Lahiri, the revolutionary leader, of Kakori case fame, was hanged to death in Gonda prison on December 12 1927. Due to adequate arrangements and alertness on the part of local authorities the mounting discontent of the people simmered and no untoward incident took place.

After the non-cooperation movement, the district of Gonda remained sensitive throughout in catching vibrations of political activities pervading throughout the country. The fatal inertia that had practically put an end, after calling off the non-cooperation movement, to all nationalist activities, was removed by an action of the British government, namely the appointment of Simon Commission in 1928. On February 3, 1928<sup>3</sup>, the day of the arrival of the Commission in Bombay, complete *hartal* (strike) was observed in all important towns in India, and huge demonstrations by way of processions waving black flags and carrying banners, "Go back Simon". The assault on Lala Lajpat Rai, and his subsequent death, increased the vigour of the demonstrations against the Simon Commission throughout the country and specially in the places which it subsequently visited. The district besides its protest against the Commission, had sent its representatives to Lucknow, as the Commission was due to reach there, and the local Congress committee had made extensive preparations for its boycott. Volunteers in adequate numbers from Gonda district participated in the demonstrations.

On October 9, 1929 Mahatma Gandhi visited the district along with Jawaharlal Nehru. At Mankapur railway station about 1,000 persons headed by raja Raghuraj Singh and his sons were present to receive him. Later, in the day about 2,000 persons gathered at the raja's house to see Gandhiji and hear him. Gandhiji expressed a desire to see a *charkha* (spinning wheel) installed in every house. He also pleaded for following the Congress creed with unity and communal harmony for achieving Independence for the country. At the end of his speech he was presented with purses from the raja, the residents of Raniganj Bazar, and many others. The sums presented were estimated at about Rs 3,000 or more.

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1. Nehru, Jawaharlal : *op. cit.*, p. 85

2. *Ibid.*, 33

3. Majumdar, R. C. *op. cit.*, Vol. III, p. 310

raula and Sadullahnagar parganas, and the total revenue demand was only Rs 74,264.<sup>1</sup> Of the five brothers, only two were left with a issue—Pahar Khan and Mubarak Khan. The former succeeded to the title and acquired the three lapsed shares. He was frequently at war with the Janwars of Balrampur but no marked result ensued. He was followed by his son Purdil Khan with a short reign who died leaving an infant son, Tarbiat Khan. The affairs of the estate, during his minority were managed by the sons of Mubarak Khan, Mahabat Khan and Dilawar Khan. These two brothers were great warriors and had assisted Datt Singh of Gonda.<sup>2</sup> Tarbiat Khan died in 1783 with an uneventful reign. He was succeeded by Sadullah Khan, a man of learning but of weak character and quite unfit for his position. It was during his time that the great famine of 1784 occurred and laid Utraula desolate to such an extent that it never recovered till annexation.<sup>3</sup> On the death of Imam Bakhsh Khan without issue, the succession passed after a short interregnum, to Muhammad Niwaz Khan, a first cousin of Sadullah Khan; but here as in Gonda, and within a few years of the same time, the central Muhammadan power had taken advantage of the weakness of the local chief to assume direct administration. This was more so because Muhammad Niwaz Khan was a drunken mad man and was utterly incapable of maintaining his authority or position. The new raja was provided for by an assignment of the revenue of 24 villages, giving him an estimated annual income of Rs 4,185.<sup>4</sup> In 1804, Muhammad Niwaz Khan was succeeded by his son Lutf Ali Khan. His reign was not peaceful. For some time he was engaged in fighting with Karimdad Khan, grandson of Mubarak Khan, on the question of the latter's claim of his ancestral share of one-fifth of the estate. When he was denied his claim, he proceeded to create a lot of disturbance. Ultimately he was defeated and slain in 1831. During the course of this fight Karimdad Khan had been able to leave to his brother an estate of twelve villages, to which more were subsequently added.<sup>5</sup> Another trouble, during the reign of Lutf Ali Khan, was the invasion of Utraula by the Surajbansis of Amorha and the Gargbansis of Faizabad, but neither achieved any success and the latter were defeated badly. Lutf Ali Khan was succeeded by his son, Muhammad Khan, in 1830.<sup>6</sup> His rule was a period of continuing disaster. The descendants of Mubarak Khan not only actively harassed him but also captured village after village as their old share. Defiance by the Kayasth Chaudhris of Achalpur had compelled him to attack and burn their fort. The zamindars of Itwa had openly rebelled and shot his brother, Amir Ali Khan, who had been sent to coerce them. Finally raja Drigbilai Singh of Balrampur, at the beginning of his reign, attacked Muhammad Khan, burned Utraula and carried off the Raja's *Qoran*. The shock of this defeat and humiliation caused his death in 1837.<sup>7</sup> His son Umrao Ali Khan succeeded

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1. *Ibid.*

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. Benett, W. C. : *op. cit.*, p. 26

5. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 106

6. *Ibid.*

7. *Ibid.*

and lived to see the British rule after having spent eighteen years in border warfare with Balrampur.

When Saadat Khan took over the government of the province the Janwars under the rajas of Balrampur held the entire northern portion of the district with a southern boundary of the Rapti for the eastern and the Kuwana for the western half of their territories.<sup>1</sup> Their zamindari rights in the vast forest which clothed the skirt of the hills had never been definitely divided off from those exercised by the Nepalese rajas of Dhang, who subsequently became the rajas of Tulsipur, and it is impossible to assign any exact area of their influence. It may, however, be roughly stated that the Janwar Power in this direction extended over about four hundred square miles.<sup>2</sup>

The Janwar rajas of Balrampur were secured by their inaccessible position from excessive interference on the part of the Avadh officials, and their history during the eighteenth century was unmarked, except by the gradual extension of cultivation, and occasional wars with their neighbours at Utraula.<sup>3</sup>

Raja Chhattar Singh was succeeded by his son, Narain Singh, who resisted in two pitched battles the officials of the Avadh government under Saadat Khan. Thenceforth this policy of resistance was ever after followed by his successors till annexation. Narain Singh was succeeded by Pirthipal Singh who died in 1781. The latter had no issue which caused one of the common cases of disputed succession at the end of that century, and ultimately Newal Singh secured the position of chieftain.<sup>4</sup> He was the son of Kakulat Singh and grandson of Anup Singh, whose father, Fateh Singh, was the brother of raja Narain Singh. Newal Singh was one of the most famous of the Balrampur chieftains and is said to have fought the *nazims* on twenty-two occasions. Though he was often defeated, yet was never subdued and the revenue paid for his pargana was a little more than a tribute.<sup>5</sup>

In 1795 Newal Singh helped another raja Newal Singh, a Chauhan chieftain, who had been driven out of his territories in the hills by the Nepalese, and enabled him to possess eight forest *tappas* which make up the Tulsipur pargana. In return the benefactor was promised a small annual tribute.<sup>6</sup> After a reign of thirty-six years, Newal Singh died in 1817, and was succeeded by his son Arjun Singh.<sup>7</sup> Throughout his thirteen years of reign Arjun Singh found himself busy in resisting the revenue authorities. On two occasions he fought with his neighbour, the Bisen raja of Bhinga. He died in 1830 and was succeeded by his son, Jai Narain Singh, who also died after a short reign in 1836.<sup>8</sup> He was followed by Drigbijai Singh, then a boy of eighteen. He attacked the Pathan raja of Utraula Muhammad Khan, defeated and humiliated him

1. Benett, W. C. : *op. cit.*, p. 19

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*, p. 27

4. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 79

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

7. *Ibid.*

8. *Ibid.*

and burnt the town of Utraula at the beginning of his reign. Then he demanded the zamindari dues from the raja of Tulsipur, which his predecessors had been pressing. This resulted in an irregular warfare, and lasted for several years without any decisive results.<sup>1</sup> By this time the old enemies of his family had lifted their heads and attacked the young raja. The situation for a time necessitated him to take refuge with the raja of Bansi in Basti. On his return to Balrampur he was again met with an engagement with the *nazim* Shankar Sahai Pathak only after a few years of peace. Two years later, in 1842, Darshan Singh obtained the possession of the Gonda-Bahraich district, and at once marched to Balrampur.<sup>2</sup> Drigbijai Singh was reduced to great distress, but his friend, the minister of Nepal, aided him with loans of money and a house to reside in near Mahrajani in the Nepal territory, about 86 km. from Balrampur. Darshan Singh, emboldened with his authority and power, did not care to avoid the infringement of the Nepalese territory and attacked the house of the raja in September 1843.<sup>3</sup> The raja somehow escaped the situation with the loss of thirty men. Darshan Singh nominally punished for his violation of Nepal territory, and the raja returned to Balrampur, where he resumed the engagement for the entire estate, which he held uninteruptedly till annexation.<sup>4</sup> Drigbijai Singh again attacked the raja of Tulsipur, seizing the opportunity afforded by the latter's quarrel with his son. The conflict ended with a compromise in favour of Drigbijai Singh. Under the compromise the raja was benefited with the payment of a small sum of money and the grant of a cluster of villages under the Tulsipur forest.<sup>5</sup> One of these was Bankatwa, in which Drigbijai Singh built a small fort later on. The last four or five years before annexation were spent in dispute with the raja of Utraula.<sup>6</sup>

With the annexation of the province of Avadh by the East India Company in February 1856, Gonda became a separate district in the Gonda-Bahraich Commissionership. Annexation passed off quietly, although the Gonda raja exhibited strong disapproval of the measure and was with difficulty persuaded to leave his fort at Gonda and meet the district officer. His fears proved quite unfounded, for he was allowed to engage for practically the whole of his estate at a revenue of Rs 80,000.<sup>7</sup> The military headquarters of the commissioner were at Sikraura or Colonelgani, but the civil station was at Gonda. With a view to establish order the deputy commissioner was engaged throughout 1856 in establishing tahsil and police stations with the settlement of land revenue and the multifarious work required for the purpose. As a matter of fact the administration that was established in Avadh after its annexation was a more potent source of active disaffection than the annexation itself. The wave of indignation was spreading all over the country and the annexation of Avadh was undoubtedly the most important

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1. *Ibid.*

2. *Ibid.*, p. 80

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

7. *Ibid.*, p. 157

auxiliary cause of the outbreak of the freedom struggle of 1857. The immediate reaction of the British policy was seen in the district when colonel Boileau, the deputy commissioner, was attacked and killed by one Fadaí Ali.<sup>1</sup> Though Fazal Ali had escaped at the time, but was surprised and slain a few days after. Though this incident in the district did not constitute a part of the first struggle for freedom yet the resentment behind this was undoubtedly one of the causes of feverish excitement. The immediate reaction was seen in the district through this incident which may be said to have served as a prelude to the freedom struggle of 1857.

Soon after the arrival of the new deputy commissioner all-pervading causes had set in motion the forces of great revolt. At that time the troops in the district comprised the 3rd Oudh Irregulars at Gonda, the 1st, or Daly's Irregular Horse, the 2nd Oudh Irregulars, and Irregular Light Horse Battery at Sikraura.<sup>2</sup> The news of the disturbances at Meerut and Delhi had alarmed the authorities in the district. As the news came in from station after station ever with fresh tidings of the revolt, there seemed to be little hope that the Bahraich division would be exempt from the disturbances which were afflicting the whole province. The cavalry were known to be disaffected at the beginning of June, and the other troops were considered of very doubtful fidelity. The Britishers were more anxious about the safety of their families.<sup>3</sup> So as a first measure of precaution, the families were sent under a guard of cavalry, principally Sikhs on 9th June to the strongholds of certain friendly chiefs situated on the borders of Nepal.<sup>4</sup>

In the meantime a false alarm, accidental or designed, precipitated the rising of the troops at Sikraura.<sup>5</sup> The news was brought in the night, that the infantry were arming. The officers, since the departure of their families, had been sleeping at the commissioner's house. They abruptly awoke and went forth into the darkness to the artillery quarters and turned the guns upon the infantry lines. The artillery corps obeyed orders and seemed to be faithful which did not necessitate the trial of the strength of their loyalty to the utmost; for the infantry made no demonstrations. The officers retired to their beds while on the other hand a different story gained credence in the infantry lines. The troops suspected a design to massacre them as they slept; and from that time the undenominated fear was upon them, that had so often been the precursor of revolt.<sup>6</sup> In the troops at Sikraura there were unmistakable signs of revolt. The chief commissioner of Avadh, had given premission to the chief civil and military officers that in the event a revolt breaks out or appears to be inevitable they were at liberty to take suitable measures for their own safety.<sup>7</sup> Wing field, the commissioner of Bahraich rode to Gonda with all speed on pretence of going for his wonted evening ride, where he found that the regiment posted there

1. Chaudhuri, S. B. *Civil Rebellion in the Indian Mutinies 1857-1859*, (Calcutta 1957), p. 14

2. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 157

3. *Ibid.*

4. Rizvi, S. A. A., Bhargava, M. L. : *Freedom struggle in Uttar Pradesh*, Vol. II, (Publication Bureau, Information Department, Uttar Pradesh, 1958- p. 44

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*, p. 45

7. *Ibid.*



had not revolted till then. The next morning the officers, who had been closely guarded by the troops, escaped and rode off towards Balrampur. A few officers, who had remained with the battery were also persuaded by their men to fly and the small party reached Lucknow in safety.<sup>1</sup> The troops plundered the treasury and station of Sikraura and then marched off to join the regiment at Gonda.<sup>2</sup>

Till then the administrative functioning at Gonda was normal, and the troops there were professing usual allegiance, yet there was no reason to believe that they had not been in correspondence with their counter-parts at Sikraura and Faizabad. But when the commissioner brought in the discouraging news of the outbreaks at both the places, it had become evident that the troops, though they still professed their fidelity would join their comrades on the first appearance of any section from either place. On the news of the outbreak of the freedom struggle at Faizabad and of the disaffection of the Bahraich detachment, the commissioner and the deputy commissiner with two officers of the 2nd Irregulars, set off for Balrampur on 10th of June.<sup>3</sup> In the meantime a letter was received from Sikraura addressed to the men of the 3rd Regiment at Gonda urging them to seize both the treasury and their officers. Therefore, the other officers too decided to escape the next morning and they also left the station for Balrampur. This party of nineteen persons and some children was accorded a hospitable welcome at Balrampur by raja Drigbijai Singh. Wingfield thought it imprudent to stay with the raja since it was undoubtedly a source of danger both to him and the English people.<sup>4</sup> Hence on the evening of the 12th they set out under an escort of the raja and 500 of his men towards Gorakhpur, reaching Bansi on the 14th of June, and after staying there for some days with the friendly raja of that place, arrived at Gorakhpur on the 26th.<sup>5</sup> After the escape of the officers the troops plundered and destroyed the civil station and then marched for Lucknow.<sup>6</sup>

This outbreak in the district was followed by a war of the landholders who were discontented because of the summary Settlement of the land revenue.<sup>7</sup> The district lapsed into a state of anarchy, and the taluqdars from the first devoted their attention to strengthening their own position. Raja Debi Bakhsh Singh of Gonda took a leading part in the struggle for freedom.<sup>8</sup> He soon followed Raja Krishn Datt Ram, who had preceded him and joined the Begam's forces at Lucknow with a thousand men. Shortly afterwards he was reinforced by four hundred of the Gauraha Bisens under the several heads of the clan. Har Ratan Singh of Majhgawan, however, remained with the English officers throughout escorting them from Balrampur to Gorakhpur.<sup>9</sup> Raja Drigbijai

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1. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 158

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

7. Chaudhuri, S. B. : *op. cit.*, p. 144

8. Nevill, H. R. *op. cit.*, pp. 158-159

9. *Ibid.*, p. 159

Singh of Balrampur had steadily refused to join the freedom forces or to recognize their rule and had throughout maintained his allegiance to the alien rulers. Though orders from the Avadh rule were passed to confiscate his property, their implementation was not done since no one was found strong enough to carry them out.<sup>1</sup> The Tulsipur raja was a prisoner at Lucknow and the rani was siding actively with the freedom forces. Her contributions to the cause of freedom were remarkable. She had collected a large force to assist the freedom forces and strengthen her own position.<sup>2</sup> Raja Riasat Ali Khan of Utraula had also joined the freedom forces at Gorakhpur under Muhammad Hasan, once *nazim* of Gonda-Bahraich.<sup>3</sup>

Raja Debi Bakhsh Singh, while leaving for Lucknow, had left behind him his nearest kinsman, Pirthipal Singh of Mahnon, in charge of the south of the district. The independence of the various chieftains was providing a cause of worry to the Begam, and she was feeling that a strong hand was necessary to represent the central government. Consequently the Begam sent back Raja Debi Bakhsh Singh from Lucknow with plenary powers over the whole country held by his ancestor, the famous Datt Singh. He fixed his camp at Lamati, a fort on the Chamdai on the borders of Manakapur and Mahadewa. At this place, it is said he was joined by levies amounting to twenty thousand men. Here he remained in camp till the first news came of the advance of British troops.<sup>4</sup>

On January 5, 1858 the second Gurkha force together with brigadier Macgregor, re-captured Gorakhpur, which was earlier seized by Muhammad Hasan and the freedom forces had to retire westwards towards Gonda.<sup>5</sup> The Gurkhas thereafter marched to Lucknow, while the British forces under Rowcroft remained behind with a naval brigade and two Nepalese regiments to guard Gorakhpur. On the 4th of March, Rowcroft with the troops under him approached this district and took up a position near the entrenchments of the rebels at Belwa. These forces comprised some 14,000 men under Mahdi Husain, the raja of Gonda and Charda and others. The next morning the British forces were attacked but after losing some 500 men and eight guns in a stubborn fight the rebels had to retire to their Belwa entrenchments.<sup>6</sup> Thereafter Rowcroft fought two engagements on the 17th and 25th of April, but could inflict only some loss to the freedom forces. Since the reinforcements sent for by Rowcroft had not arrived by that time he had to retire to Captainganj in Basti. These and other engagements, however, caused great shrinkage in the followers of the Gonda raja, and eventually he was left with some 1,500 men around him in his camp.<sup>7</sup>

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1. *Ibid.*, p. 159

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*, p. 160

6. *Ibid.*, p. 160

7. *Ibid.*

By October, 1858 Lord Clyde was in a position to commence the final campaign against the freedom forces in Avadh and a strong British force had entered the Gonda district. Towards the end of November, Hope Grant had reached Faizabad, where the garrison consisted of 4,300 men under colonel Taylor, C. B. The freedom forces were holding Nawabganj and their guns covered passage of the river at long range. On the 27th the main body of the British forces, however, crossed the river and attacked the freedom forces and captured one gun.<sup>1</sup> Though the progress of the English troops was slow due to sandy nature of the soil, yet Hope pressed on and captured four more guns of the rebels before retiring to his camp near Nawabganj. On December 3, 1858 he marched to Bargaon and thence Machhligaoon where he found the rebel forces in number with 3 guns. He attacked them and captured two guns while driving them in the jungles to the north. He thereafter proceeded and captured the abandoned fort or Bankasia of raja Gonda who had escaped to Bhinga across the Rapti, leaving behind him five guns and a quantity of stores. On December 9, Hope Grant reached Gonda and a week later proceeded to Balrampur where he was met by Raja Drigbijai Singh. By this time the campaign had, however, gone according to Clyde's plans to liquidate the freedom fighters from Avadh altogether. Raja Debi Bakhsh Singh of Gonda and other prominent leaders of Avadh had to leave their home districts and confine themselves to a narrow region on the border of Nepal. The aim of English was to push the rebel forces and their leaders north into the inhospitable land of Jang Bahadur.<sup>2</sup>

In the mean time Bala Rao, the brother of the Nana, had taken refuge in the old fort of Tulsipur where he had been joined by Muhammad Hasan. The rani of Tulsipur was believed to be on the freedom fighters' side. Since Clyde was busy closing his net, a force under Hope Grant was despatched to reduce her stronghold.<sup>3</sup> He arrived at Balrampur on the 16th of December and was joined by the friendly raja. He thereupon summoned Rowcroft from Hir in Basti to march on Tulsipur and sent the 53rd to support.<sup>4</sup> After crossing the Burhi Rapti Rowcroft engaged the rebels and on the 23rd of December occupied Tulsipur pushing the latter to the jungles. Hope Grant had by then marched to Biskohar in Basti in order to prevent the freedom fighters from escaping into Gorakhpur, thence he had proceeded to Dalhari on the Nepal frontier, where he waited till joined by Rowcroft.<sup>5</sup> Here news was again received of the retreat of Bala Rao to Kundakot along the edge of the forest. Hope Grant attacked the enemy position with a well knit plan on the 4th of January 1859 but the enemy escaped.<sup>6</sup> By about this time news came of the amnesty, but it had little effect in this quarter.

The district was still not peaceful as it was full of the freedom forces from Gonda raj. In April, 1859, there were some 4,000 of

1. *Ibid.*

2. Sen, S. N., : *Bighteen Fifty-Seven*, (Delhi, 1957), p. 361

3. *Ibid.*

4. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 161

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

them near Bankasia, and 1,300 more had broken south towards the Ghaghra. The freedom forces consisting of the Kanpur regiments under Gajadhar Singh, had made a dash on Sikraura, but they were repelled.<sup>1</sup> Then they retired to Bangaon where they were surrounded, the fort being captured and Gajadhar Singh and his 150 men killed, while the rest were dispersed. The British forces under Hope Grant then reached Balrampur on the 7th of May, where letters were received from Bala Rao and the Nana, who were encamped at Serwa Pars. Bala Rao had professed submission, but the Nana refused to consider any such proposal. Marching on the 10th to Biskohar, the forces entered the pass on the 21st. After an engagement the freedom fighters escaped across the hills. The freedom struggle against the foreign rulers in the district thus came to an end.<sup>2</sup>

The rani of Tulsipur and the raja of Gonda never surrendered. The latter died in the malaria-infested jungles of Nepal. Their estate were confiscated and bestowed on the raja of Balrampur and Man Singh who sided with the British power throughout the revolt. The Burapara property of Ashraf Bakhsh Singh was also confiscated on account of his persistent revolutionary activities for the cause of freedom. It was given to another anti-national, Har Ratan Singh of Majhgawan. The other talugdars were restored to their ancestral estates and allowed to engage all the villages they had held prior to annexation.<sup>3</sup> Gradually civil administration was restored throughout the district. A small military force was maintained at Gonda for a few years, but the cantonments were ultimately abandoned in 1864.<sup>4</sup> The district then finally settled down to normal life and the subsequent history of the district had been uneventful till the non-cooperation movement of 1920, which once again sent a wave of national ferment that shook the prevailing calm for which the administration had laboured hard.

The various groups which combined to trigger off the 1857 out-burst had only been able to initiate the idea of ultimate objective of overthrowing the authority of the foreigners. Thereafter, among many factors the establishment of the Indian National Congress in 1885, to promote the cause of India's freedom, was an important one.

The people of the district received impetus by the visit of Lala Lajpat Rai in 1908. In his address he emphatically upheld his views on united action and social service. He also sympathised with the deplorable condition of the peasantry of the district. He suggested measures for their uplift. The local dignitaries, specially pleaders of the district gave whole hearted co-operation. They were also inspired to take up the managerial work of the Congress organisation in the district. The Congress organisation was then limited mostly to the pleaders' class, besides some enthusiastic men

1. *Ibid.* p. 162

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*

and its main function was to attend the Congress sessions held at various places in the country

The Non-cooperation movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi was approved in the special session of the Congress held in Calcutta on September 4, 1920,<sup>1</sup> and it was later ratified by the regular session at Nagpur in December, 1920.<sup>2</sup>

The stage for national activities was already set in the district. Like elsewhere in Avadh the peasantry in this district was the greatest sufferer on account of the agrarian distress. The crushing of peasants and their ever-growing burden of rent, illegal exactions, ejections from land and poor dwellings, physical torture and around fleeing by zamindar's agents, money-lenders and police were the common scenes. This process of the progressive exploitation of the peasantry had been going on for a long time.<sup>3</sup>

The rural and urban populace of the district shared its due in the various activities of the Non-cooperation movement. The boycott of legal profession was heralded by the self-sacrifice of Motilal Nehru and C. R. Das, both of whom were leaders at the bar and enjoyed princely income.<sup>4</sup> They had given up their practice, and their example was followed by a large number of lawyers in the district. This boycott, in the district as elsewhere in the province, was more spectacular than effective. It was talked of enthusiastically in the beginning but gradually dwindled as time passed. The lawyers of the district, who were so far commanding the Congress organisation, were seen gradually reluctant with active participation in the Congress activities. On March 30 and 31, 1922 a tahsil political conference was held at Sewai Raniganj in the district. The participation of Jawaharlal Nehru in this conference had infused fresh life in the political atmosphere. Thereafter a number of meetings were organised at various places in the district to mobilize public opinion. One of such meetings was held on June 25, 1922 at Gonda and it was attended by some 1,500 persons. It was addressed by Motilal Nehru who urged the audience to wear khaddar to make the constructive aspect of the Non-cooperation movement a success. Despite various repressive measures of the local authorities to demoralise the workers and curb the movement; it was carried on with zeal.

Non-cooperation was in fact, a mass movement. Even in remote bazars the common folk talked of the Congress and Swaraj. There was a new yearning for freedom. The fear that had demoralised the people had disappeared, and they became ready for a fresh move with determination. Meetings and conferences added

1. Majumdar, R. C. : *History of the freedom Movement in India*, Vol. III, (Calcutta, 1963), p. 85
2. *Ibid.* p. 96
3. Nehru, Jawahar Lal : *Jawahar Lal An. Autobiography*, (London, 1936), p. 52
4. Majumdar, R. C. *The History and culture of the Indian people Struggle for freedom*, Vol. XI, (Bombay, 1969), p. 340

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Statue of Martyr Rajendra Lahri, Gonda

greatly to their political education. By February 1922 it was however, observed at the summit level of the Congress that the movement, in spite of its apparent and widespread enthusiasm, was grinding to a halt as almost all leading persons had been arrested, and the masses had so far received little training to carry on by themselves.<sup>1</sup> These factors combined with the Chauri Chaura incident resulted in a sudden suspension of the movement<sup>2</sup>. The activities, however, in some form or the other, continued in the district. A district political conference was organised in the district in 1924. Mrs. Sarojini Naidu toured the district from June 2 to 4 in 1926 and urged people to foster unity, weave khadi and work for Swaraj. The normalcy which had marked the district after suspension of the Non-cooperation movement in 1922, was disturbed when Rajendra Nath Lahiri, the revolutionary leader, of Kakori case fame, was hanged to death in Gonda prison on December 12 1927. Due to adequate arrangements and alertness on the part of local authorities the mounting discontent of the people simmered and no untoward incident took place.

After the non-cooperation movement, the district of Gonda remained sensitive throughout in catching vibrations of political activities pervading throughout the country. The fatal inertia that had practically put an end, after calling off the non-cooperation movement, to all nationalist activities, was removed by an action of the British government, namely the appointment of Simon Commission in 1928. On February 3, 1928<sup>3</sup>, the day of the arrival of the Commission in Bombay, complete *hartal* (strike) was observed in all important towns in India, and huge demonstrations by way of processions waving black flags and carrying banners, "Go back Simon". The assault on Lala Lajpat Rai, and his subsequent death, increased the vigour of the demonstrations against the Simon Commission throughout the country and specially in the places which it subsequently visited. The district besides its protest against the Commission, had sent its representatives to Lucknow, as the Commission was due to reach there, and the local Congress committee had made extensive preparations for its boycott. Volunteers in adequate numbers from Gonda district participated in the demonstrations.

On October 9, 1929 Mahatma Gandhi visited the district along with Jawaharlal Nehru. At Mankapur railway station about 1,000 persons headed by raja Raghuraj Singh and his sons were present to receive him. Later, in the day about 2,000 persons gathered at the raja's house to see Gandhiji and hear him. Gandhiji expressed a desire to see a *charkha* (spinning wheel) installed in every house. He also pleaded for following the Congress creed with unity and communal harmony for achieving Independence for the country. At the end of his speech he was presented with purses from the raja, the residents of Raniganj Bazar, and many others. The sums presented were estimated at about Rs 3,000 or more.

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1. Nehru, Jawaharlal : *op. cit.*, p. 85

2. *Ibid.*, 33

3. Majumdar, R. C. *op. cit.*, Vol. III, p. 310

In another meeting at Gonda on the following day a purse of Rs 1,668 was also presented.

The non-cooperation movement which was abruptly suspended by Gandhiji in 1922 was revived in the Congress session of 1929.<sup>1</sup> On April 6, 1930 Gandhiji broke the salt laws at Dandi beach and three or four days later directive was given to all Congress organisations to do likewise and launch Civil Disobedience in their own areas.<sup>2</sup> In view of these directives, the then secretary district Congress Committee, Gonda, imprisoned during salt movement in the same year, was made in charge of the movement in the district. He was later on imprisoned during the movement.

On April 11, 1930 salt was manufactured in the city of Gonda. The demonstration was repeated on May 13 and 15. Processions were taken out at a number of places in the district and at Balrampur bonfire of foreign cloth was made. Two meetings were held at Gonda on May 6 and 9, 1930, in protest of Gandhiji's arrest. Prominent local leaders addressed these meetings and urged the audience to unite and advise the salt movement. Several notable leaders of the district who participated in these meetings were prosecuted and sentenced to imprisonment and also with fine. On June 2, 1930 salt was again made in the city by two enthusiastic local leaders who had been released that very day. They were promptly re-arrested. They were followed by another leader the next day and he too was arrested. On June 2 and 3 salt was manufactured in village Khajuri by a number of boys and this process continued for a long time. In Balrampur a Charkha Ashram was started and on June 21, 1930 a funeral procession of foreign cloth was taken out and finally some quantity of foreign cloth was also burnt. The shopkeepers were allowed six weeks time to sell off their stocks or else face picketing of their shops. Again a number of flag processions were taken out at various places of the district in the month of June, encouraging the boycott of foreign cloth.

The breach of the Salt Act soon became just one activity, and civil resistance spread also to other fields of activity. At that time India was being governed forcibly under autocratic rule with Ordinances and suppression of every kind of civil liberty. With the increase in the severity of the laws, the opportunities for breaking them also grew, and civil resistance took the form of doing the very thing that the laws were supposed to prohibit. Each official ordinance was countered by a resolution of the Congress working committee giving directions as to how to meet it. These directions were carried out with surprising uniformity.

Peasants in this district were the greatest sufferers on account of the agrarian distress. In the second half of the year 1931 there appeared to be a silent conspiracy in which the government or its district officials were hands-in-gloves with the big zamindars, to crush the tenants and to break up the Congress organisation in the rural areas.

1. Majumdar, R. C., : *op. cit.*, Vol. III, pp. 325-326  
2. Nehru, Jawaharlal : *op. cit.*, p. 213



On May 9, 1931, the police and local officials besieged the tenants of Baraipur for rent collection. The tenants wanted two days' time but they were beaten up and twenty-three of them were arrested. Similarly, at Semri a contractor and his men in an effort to collect rent had ill-treated women. For three days no one was allowed to draw water from wells until payment of rent was made. Men arrested and tried were removed from the village and thereafter women were outraged and they could not know anything about the outrage in the jail. Later, thirteen men were prosecuted for having used force against the contractor's men.<sup>1</sup> Jawaharlal Nehru, who paid a visit to both these places some time in the month of October, 1931, personally met many of the victims as well as witnesses of the outrage, and found the charges to be true. In connection with No-rent campaign a large number of persons were arrested in 1932. The movement was suppressed with uncalled for severity. But despite repressive measures on the part of administration, the movement continued in the district unabated till May, 1934 when Gandhiji suspended it and accepted the policy of entry into legislature as a part of the Congress programme. There was a full scale election campaign in the district in 1937. Meetings were organised to consolidate the people in favour of Congress. Some prominent national leaders including Jawaharlal Nehru and Madan Mohan Malviya also visited the district during this period. Their visits improved the prospects of the Congress in the elections in the district.

Soon after the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, the Congress ministry resigned as it had decided not to cooperate with the government in the war effort. The people started a wide-spread campaign, particularly against contributions towards war fund. Mahatma Gandhi launched the movement of individual satyagraha on October 17, 1940, by selecting one individual at a time to go out in the street shouting anti-war slogans, and get arrested.<sup>2</sup>

In Gonda district too, as elsewhere in the country, this campaign was started with vigour. Earlier, on January 21, 1940 Subhas Chandra Bose had visited Gonda and had exhorted the audience to make use of the opportunity and make a final bid to obtain freedom.

In the month of April, 1940, anti-war campaign was in full swing in the district. A large number of persons were arrested under the Defence of India Rules, yet the agitation against forcible realization of the war fund continued unabated. There were protest meetings against alleged cases of forced levies by the district authorities; distribution of leaflets issued by the provincial Congress Committee protesting against the forcible realization and parades of Congress Seva Dal were also witnessed. On August 28, 1940, a flag-salutation ceremony was performed by the Congress volunteers at Manikpur for which they were administered a warning by the dis-

1. Gopal S. (Ed) : *Selected works of Jawaharlal Nehru*, Vol. V, (New Delhi, 1973) pp. 140-41

2. Majumdar, R. C., *op. cit.*, Vol. III, p. 607

strict authorities. With such activities Individual Satyagrah ended in the district by the end of 1941.

The Quit India resolution passed by the All India Congress Committee in its session at Bombay on August 8, 1942, had marked the 'turning point in India's struggle for freedom'.<sup>1</sup> The resolution provided for a complete and immediate withdrawal of the British from India. In case of the government not conceding the demand Gandhiji was to launch his movement which he characterised as "non-violent rebellion" the main purpose of which was to evoke in the people the measure of sacrifice sufficient to compel attention. Early next morning (August 9, 1942) Gandhiji and the members of the working committee were taken into custody. Wholesale arrests of Congressmen had simultaneously begun in every part of the country.

In the district the movement started on the usual non-violent lines, in the shape of *hartals* (strikes) and processions but before it could gain momentum, the local leaders were arrested. The arrest of the leaders and stern repressive measures adopted by the authorities were among others, the reasons which soon turned the demonstrators violent. The government had to face a popular revolt which though unarmed, was most violent in character. Though the movement had taken a very serious turn in eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh including Basti, close vicinity of this district, no serious repercussions occurred in Gonda. However the movement launched in 1942 lost its vigour even before the end of the year, and no trace of it remained after 1944.<sup>2</sup>

In 1946 Congress leaders were released and in the general elections for the provincial legislature the Congress was again returned in majority. Then the long cherished dream of Independence came true in the mid-night of August 14-15, 1947 and the country was partitioned into India and Pakistan. On the eve of Independence thousand persons both from the town and surrounding countryside assembled at the district headquarters to witness the flag hoisting of the National Flag. National Flag was hoisted at the collector's office and other government and semi-government buildings. Private buildings too, throughout the district, were bedecked with flags. In the evening there were illumination and fireworks. Tumultuous scenes of joy amid spontaneous rejoicings were witnessed in every town and village of the district. Partition was followed by a large scale migration of population from one part to the other which was accompanied by bloodshed, misery and hardship. In course of time as many as 1,232 displaced persons from Pakistan came to the district and were rehabilitated.

On hearing the news of assassination of Mahatma Gandhi (on January 30, 1948) the whole district went into mourning. Markets, offices and other establishments were all closed. Several

1. Chopra P.N.: *Quit India Movement of 1942*. (An article published in the *Journal of Indian History*, Vol. XLIX, Quarter ending December, 1971 Trivendrum, p. 1)
2. Majumdar, R. C., : *op. cit.*, Vol. III p. 671

processions were taken out and meetings held to mourn the tragic and irreparable loss of the Father of the Nation. As elsewhere in the State October 2, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, is celebrated as Gandhi Jayanti.

With enactment and adoption of the Constitution of India on January 26, 1950, India became a Sovereign Democratic Republic. Once again the district witnessed great rejoicing, meetings and illumination of government and private buildings. This day is solemnly observed with enthusiasm every year all over the district as the Republic day.

On the occasion of celebration of Silver Jubilee of Independence in 1973 about 200 persons of the district, who had taken part in country's freedom struggle or their dependents, were favoured with *tamra patras* (copper plates) placing on record the services rendered by them or their forbears.



सत्यमेव जयते

## CHAPTER III

### PEOPLE

#### POPULATION

The population of the district in 1971 comprised 23,02,029 persons of whom 12,27,448 were males and 10,74,581 females and in respect of population it occupied eleventh position in the State. The density of population was 314 persons per sq. km. as against the State average of 300. The sex ratio of the district was 875 females per 1,000 males, which was a little lower than the State average of 879.

The tahsilwise distribution of district population and its area in 1971 was as follows :

District/tahsil	Area (sq. km.)	Persons	Population	
			Males	Females
District/total	7,331.0	23,02,029	12,27,448	10,74,581
Gonda	1,655.0	6,02,729	3,22,435	2,80,294
Balrampur	2,569.0	5,90,382	3,19,112	2,71,270
Utraula	1,554.8	5,88,656	3,10,772	2,77,884
Tarabganj	1,890.0	5,20,262	2,75,129	2,45,133

The percentage of population in each tahsil and its density is given in the following statement :

Tahsil	Percentage to total population	Density per sq. km.
Gonda	26.23	364
Balrampur	25.65	230
Utraula	25.57	379
Tarabganj	22.60	308

Some more details of area and population of the district in 1961 and 1971 are given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

#### Growth of Population

The first enumeration of the population of the district took place at the Avadh census of 1869. This was effected mainly through the agency of the ratalwaris, while the taluodars rendered much assistance. The number of inhabitants as then ascertained was 11,68,462 with the density of 414 persons per sq. mile. The district then contained 2,812 towns and villages, but of these no less than 2,626 possessed less than 1,000 inhabitants apiece, and only forty had more than 2,000 souls. Of the latter, five, comprising the

towns of Gonda, Balrampur, Colonelganj, Nawabganj and Utraula had a population exceeding 5,000 inhabitants, while the remainder consisted of large agricultural villages.

The first census was considered to be defective, partly on account of the novelty of the experiment which caused suspicion and in many cases led to concealment, and partly by reason of the faulty instructions issued to enumerators.

The next census was that of 1881, and it was then ascertained that the district contained 12,70,926 inhabitants, the increase during the past twelve years being no less than 1,02,464 persons. The density of population was 442 persons per sq. mile. The recorded number of towns and villages was 2,790 and of these 2,575 contained less than 1,000 and forty-five over 2,000 inhabitants. Those possessing more than 5,000 persons apiece remained the same as before.

The ensuing decade was a period of exceptional prosperity in the district, and consequently the increase in the population was more rapid than before. In 1891 the district contained 14,59,229 inhabitants, with a density of 506.6 persons per sq. mile.

The decennial growth of population in the district during the period 1901-1971 was as under :

Year	Persons	Males	Females	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation
1901	14,03,529	7,14,354	6,89,175	—	—
1911	14,12,519	7,18,558	6,93,961	+ 8,990	+ 0.64
1921	14,73,389	7,53,029	7,20,360	+ 60,870	+ 4.31
1931	15,76,003	8,06,532	7,69,471	+1,02,614	+ 6.96
1941	17,19,644	8,84,308	8,35,336	+1,43,641	+ 9.11
1951	18,77,484	9,72,247	9,05,237	+1,57,840	+ 9.18
1961	20,73,237	10,72,818	10,00,419	+1,95,753	+10.43
1971	23,02,029	12,27,448	10,74,581	+2,28,792	+11.04

### Emigration and Immigration

In 1961, among the people enumerated in the district 93.7 per cent were born within the district, 5.7 per cent in other districts of the State, 0.3 per cent in other parts of India and 0.3 per cent in other countries. Among those from other countries, 4,245 were from Nepal, 1,232 from Pakistan, 351 from Burma, 44 from Africa, 12 from United States of America and 23 from other countries. Of the immigrants from other States the largest number was 1,942 from Bihar, 1,292 from Punjab, 618 from Rajasthan, 200 from Delhi and 176 from Madhya Pradesh. The number of immigrants from other districts of the State was 1,17,923. The duration of residence of 63.5 per cent immigrants was over ten years. 93.9 per cent immigrants were returned from rural areas and the remaining 6.1 per cent from urban areas. Among the immigrants 17.7 per cent were males and 82.3 per cent females

A number of persons usually go out from the district to other parts of the State or country or abroad for purposes of education, employment, trade or business or on account of marriage.

### Distribution between Urban and Rural Areas

In 1971, the district contained 2,837 villages of which 2,814 were inhabited and 23 uninhabited. The rural population comprised 94.35 per cent. The remaining 5.65 per cent population was confined to six towns. The tahsilwise break-up of population with the number of villages and towns, as in 1971 was as under :

District/Tahsil	Villages		Towns	Persons	Population	
	Inhabited	Uninhabited			Males	Females
Gonda Tahsil						
Total	782	1	1	6,02,729	3,22,435	2,80,294
Rural	782	1	-	5,50,067	2,93,312	2,56,755
Urban	-	-	1	52,662	29,123	23,539
Falrampur Tahsil						
Total	642	10	2	5,90,382	3,19,112	2,71,270
Rural	642	10	-	5,44,592	2,94,158	2,50,434
Urban	-	-	2	45,790	24,954	20,836
Utraula Tahsil						
Total	836	6	1	5,88,656	3,10,772	2,77,884
Rural	836	6	-	5,76,019	3,03,996	2,72,023
Urban	-	-	1	12,637	6,776	5,861
Tarabganj Tahsil						
Total	554	6	2	5,20,262	2,75,129	2,45,132
Rural	554	6	-	5,01,235	2,64,930	2,36,305
Urban	-	-	2	19,027	10,199	8,828
District						
Total	2,814	23	6	23,02,029	12,27,448	10,74,581
Rural	2,814	23	-	21,71,913	11,56,396	10,15,517
Urban	-	-	6	1,30,116	71,052	59,064

**Rural Population**—The extent of population in 2,814 different size villages, as in 1971, was as follows :

Range of Population	No. of inhabited villages	Population			Percentage of rural population
		Persons	Males	Females	
Less than 200	288	37,478	20,036	17,442	1.7
200- 499	852	2,92,421	1,55,247	1,37,174	13.5
500- 999	977	7,08,354	3,77,436	3,30,918	32.6
1,000-1,999	575	7,63,507	4,05,908	3,57,599	35.2
2,000-4,999	111	2,98,645	1,59,390	1,39,255	13.7
5,000-9,999	11	71,508	38,379	33,129	3.3
Total	2,814	21,71,913	11,56,396	10,15,517	100.0

**Urban Population**—In 1971, the urban population consisted of 5.65 per cent of the total population and was distributed over six towns. The population showing the number of males and females in 1971 was as follows :

Name of town	Tahsil	Persons	Males	Females
Gonda (municipal board)	Gonda	62,662	29,123	23,539
Balrampur (municipal board)	Balrampur	36,191	19,553	16,638
Utraula (notified area)	Utraula	12,637	6,776	5,861
Colonelganj (Municipal board)	Tarabganj	11,743	6,261	5,482
Tulsipur (notified area)	Balrampur	9,599	5,401	4,198
Nawabganj (municipal board)	Tarabganj	7,284	3,938	3,346

Gonda the headquarters of the district, was the most populated town which contained about 40.4 per cent of the total urban population.

The density of urban population in the district in 1971 was 4,542 persons per sq. km. while in 1961 it had come down to 3,810. The density of population was the highest in the town of Colonelganj it being 6,560 persons per sq. km.

The following statement gives density of population of towns according to 1971 census :

Name of town	Density of population
Colonelganj	6,560
Gonda	4,982
Utraula	4,879
Tulsipur	4,637
Balrampur	4,248
Nawabganj	2,342

### Displaced Persons

As a result of the partition of the subcontinent in 1947 some Muslim families from the district migrated to Pakistan, while some Hindu families came over from Sindh and Punjab. The total number of such migrants to the district according to 1961 census was 1232. They have all settled down in various trades and vocations. The government gave besides financial aid, various facilities such as technical and vocational training, special priorities in recruitment to public services to rehabilitate them.

### LANGUAGE

Prior to the census of 1951, Hindustani was recorded as the language of the people who declared their mother-tongue to be Hindi or Urdu but at the census of 1951 the actual mother tongue

whether Hindi, Urdu or Hindustani was recorded as such. In 1961, Hindi was returned as mother-tongue of 85.9 per cent of population and Urdu of 14.0 per cent. The number of persons who returned other language as their mother-tongue was insignificant.

In 1971, as many as seven languages were spoken as mother-tongues. No less than 87.19 per cent of the people returned Hindi, 12.57 Urdu, 0.01 per cent Bhojpuri, 0.07 per cent Punjabi, 0.11 per cent Avadhi, 0.01 per cent Bengali and 0.01 per cent Sindhi. A detailed list of languages spoken in the district is given at the end of the chapter in statement II.

The common speech of the people is, by and large, a form of eastern Hindi, known as the Avadhi dialect. It closely resembles the dialect spoken in Faizabad.

The Tharus, a tribal people who are largely found in Balrampur pargana speak a dialect which is a mixture of Bhojpuri and Avadhi. It appears that they have no speech of their own and wherever they are found they have partly adopted the language of the region.

### Script

The Scripts used in the district are the Devanagri for Hindi and Persian for Urdu. The immigrants have brought their own scripts with their languages.

### RELIGION AND CASTE

The population of the district as classified according to religion at the census of 1971 comprised 77.35 per cent of those following Hinduism, 22.57 per cent Islam, 0.03 per cent Christianity and 0.05 per cent Sikhism. The statement below shows the rural and urban distribution of the followers of each religion :

Tract	Religion						Total	
	Hinduism	Islam	Chris- tianity	Sikh- ism	Buddhism Jainism	other Religion and Persuasions		
District	17,80,639	5,19,652	652	1,033	2	50	1	23,02,029
Rural	17,01,362	4,70,010	277	257	-	7	-	21,71,913
Urban	79,277	49,642	375	776	2	43	1	1,30,116

### Principal Communities

**Hindus**—Of the total population of the district in 1971, 77.35 per cent were Hindus. The pattern of society among the Hindus of the district, as elsewhere, is based on the traditional four-fold caste system, the four principal castes being the Brahmana, the Kshatriya, the Vaish and the Shudra, each being divided into a number of subcastes.



Brahmanas predominate in every tahsil, except Utraula where their number is slightly exceeded by the Ahirs. The vast majority of them belong to the Sarwaria subdivision, but there are considerable number of Kanaujias, Sakaldipis, and Sanadhs. They betake themselves almost wholly agriculture, and as tenants they hold a large area than any other caste.

Ahirs, almost all of whom belong to the Gwalbans subdivision, are good cultivators. More than half of them belong to the Utraula tahsil. They also exceed in Tarabganj and Gonda.

The Koris are evenly distributed throughout the district, except pargana Gonda where they are more in number. By profession they are weavers, but they are more commonly found as agricultural labourers.

Kurmis are mainly found in Utraula tahsil though they are large in number in Gonda too. Those in the north belong mainly to the Gujrati subdivision, while those in the south are mainly Khurasias. They are among the best cultivators of the district.

The Rajputs comprise a large number of clans. The majority of them reside in the Tarabganj tahsil. The most numerous of the clans are Bisens and Kalhans. Other strong clans are Chauhans, Bais, Sombansis and Surajbansis. Besides these, there are large numbers of Bandhalgotis, Panwars, Gautams, Raikwars, Bhale Sultans, Raghubansis and Solankhis.

The other Hindu castes are Kahars, belonging mainly to Gonda tahsil. Muraos found in all parts of the district. There are also Banias, the majority of whom are of the Kasaundhan subdivision, the rest are Kandus, Agraharis, Agarwals, Baranwals, and Umars, the last being confined to the Tarabganj tahsil. There are also Telis, Lunias and Barhais, the proportion in each case being unusually high. In addition to these the other castes are Kumhars, Kavasths, Nais, Faqirs, Kalwars, Barais, Bharbhunjas, Gadariyas, Lohars, Bhars and Kewats.

Among the Faqirs are included the Goshains, who are people of some importance. They are followers of Shankaracharya and are divided into ten classes, of which the most common are known as the Gir, Puri, Bharthi and Ban. These are again subdivided into those who have adopted a worldly life and marry, and those who observe the vows of their order. The latter are strict celibates and live in small *maths* or monasteries; and in order to secure the observance of their rules they always travel in pairs. The Goshains are held in high estimation, and all castes will drink water from their vessels, although their ranks are recruited from all save the very lowest orders of society. They do not burn their dead, but bury them in a sitting posture, after covering them with salt. The Goshains are great traders.

One or two of the less common castes of Dharhis, Lodhs, Baris and Sonars are to some extent peculiar to Gonda.

**Scheduled Castes**—In the district, as elsewhere in the State, the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the other Backward Classes comprised the lowest strata of society. They are still socially, economically and educationally backward.

In 1971 the number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes was 3,80,925 which formed nearly 16.55 per cent of the district population. They are found in every tahsil in the district and comprise the general labour population of each tract.

The following statement gives tahsilwise number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes in 1971 :

District/Total	Scheduled Castes		
	Persons	Males	Females
<b>District</b>			
Rural	3,71,681	1,95,018	1,76,663
Urban	9,244	5,043	4,201
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,80,925</b>	<b>2,00,061</b>	<b>1,80,864</b>
<b>Balrampur</b>			
Rural	95,898	51,053	44,845
Urban	3,290	1,747	1,543
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,188</b>	<b>52,800</b>	<b>46,388</b>
<b>Gonda</b>			
Rural	95,104	49,749	45,355
Urban	4,046	2,278	1,768
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,150</b>	<b>52,027</b>	<b>47,123</b>
<b>Utraula</b>			
Rural	91,803	48,181	43,622
Urban	440	236	204
<b>Total</b>	<b>92,243</b>	<b>48,417</b>	<b>43,826</b>
<b>Tarabganj</b>			
Rural	88,876	46,035	42,841
Urban	1,468	782	686
<b>Total</b>	<b>90,344</b>	<b>46,817</b>	<b>43,527</b>

**Scheduled Tribes**—The only Scheduled Tribe found in the district is that of Tharus who are confined to Balrampur tahsil according to the census of 1971. In 1971 their number was 7,752 (including 3,727 females). They claim to be of Rajput descent, but their features bewray a Mongolian origin.

As for the genesis of the word, 'Tharu' it is ascribed to several etymological sources, for instance to thahre i. e., they halted or the *thartharana* i.e. trembling. According to Crooks, one of the plain Kshatriya king named these people 'Tharus' denoting a wine bibber, because of their amazing capacity to consume liquor. Nesfield however, holds that the tribe was so called after the word 'thar'

which, in the dialect of the lower castes meaning "aman of the forest".

The Tharus are divided into a number of endogamous sects, the Dangurias being the dominant group in the district.

They have a democratic, socialist oriented broad based order. The Tharu society is matriarchal. The women have very respectable position in the family and have unfettered freedom and full authority to run the household. The men are usually unimpressive and sheepish while the women are handsome and shapely.

The Tharus have a strong traditional panchayat organization to settle their disputes whose edicts are binding and scrupulously followed among the Dangurias. Especially the panchayats are big institutions covering a number of villages. The Tharus are by and large non vegetarians and fond of liquor. By profession they are hard working agriculturist.

**Muslims**—At the 1971 census, 5,19,652 persons (2,69,837 males and 2,49,815 females) or 22.57 per cent were found professing the Islamic faith. The bulk of the Muslims reside in Utraula, while they are also found in good number at Gonda and Tarabganj. The majority of the Muslims belong to the Sunni sect, the important groups among them being Sheikhs, Pathans, Saiyids, Julahas, and the Behnas. The Sheikhs outnumber the others and belong mainly to the Siddiqui and Qureshi subdivisions. Profession wise some of the important subdivisions among the Muslims are Faqirs, Nais, Darzis, and Telis, followed by Gaddis, Barhais, Kunjars, Churihars, Dhobis and Nats. Some other are Dafalis, Malis, Tambolis, Mallahs. Mirasis or Doms, Thatheras, Pankhiyas (who are cultivators and poulterers by profession), Baghbans, (who are gardeners as their name implies) Kabarias and Muraos.

**Christians**—The Christians, both Roman Catholics and Protestants, numbered 652 including 327 males and 325 females in 1971. They constitute only 0.03 per cent of the district population.

**Sikhs**—The Sikhs numbered 1,033 (566 males and 467 females) in 1971. They constitute 0.05 per cent of the district population. Most of them are found in urban areas and are engaged in various types of trade and commerce.

**Jains**—In 1971, there were 50 Jains in the district out of whom 23 were females.

**Buddhists**—In 1971, the number of Buddhists in the district was 2 (1 male and 1 female).

#### RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

##### Of Hindus

The term Hinduism is elastic and includes a number of sects and cults, allied but different in many important respects. The

Hinduism of the district practise Hinduism which is a collection of diverse beliefs and practices ranging from polytheism to absolute monism and the identification of the *atman* (individual soul) with the ultimate reality (*paramatma*). It includes the worship of tutelary village and other deities in their various aspects, spirits and powers of natural phenomena and cosmic forces (often conceived as personal being in the form of gods and (goddesses) the chief being Siva and Vishnu and their respective consorts, Parvati and Lakshmi. Rama and his consort Sita, Hanuman, Shakti (in her different forms), Ganga, Yamuna, Krishna, Radha and Ganesha. Other gods and goddesses are also worshipped as well as spirits of natural phenomena such as streams, trees, rocks and *nagas* (snakes), the sun, moon, rain, fire and wind gods, etc. Thus from the crudest forms of animism to the realisation of the ultimate reality, the Hindu religion touches the whole gamut of religious experience. Generally every household has a place for puja where the idols of the chosen deity are installed and worshipped. Worship in temples is not obligatory but many Hindus visit them either daily or on festivals and special occasions. At times *kathas* (recitations) from the *Gita*, the *Ramcharitmanasa* and other religious texts or *kirtans* (collective singing of devotional songs) are arranged both in temples and homes. Many Hindus worship the snake on Naga Panchami (the fifth day of the bright fortnight of Sravana). The *pipal* (*Ficus religiosa*) and *bargad* (*Ficus bengalensis*), trees are also sacred to them and they have a traditional reverence for the *tulsi* plant (*Ocimum sanctum*), which is to be found in nearly every home, usually in an elevated place. The illiterate and backward sections of the community also put their faith in superstitions, taboos, with craft and magic and believe in ghosts and spirits (which are feared and propitiated). Religion (and often superstition) dominates the lives of many Hindus (particularly in the rural areas) and they believe in the auspiciousness or otherwise of a particular time or period.

### मन्दिर क्षेत्र

There are a number of temples of Hanuman, Rama, Krishna and Siva in the district.

The famous temple of goddess Durga at Devi Patan is situated in Tulsipur. Other important temples are those of Baleshwar Nath Mahadev in Tarabganj, Devi Bijleshwari at Balrampur. Dukhran Nath *mandir* and Hanuman Garhi situated in Gonda proper.

The main holy books of the Hindus are the *Vedas*, the *Ramayans*, the *Gita* and the *Srimadbhagwat*.

The Tharus worship many Hindu gods along with pantheon of their own ancient gods. The Hindu gods and goddesses, popular among the Tharus are Shankar, Parvati, and Hanuman while some of the tribal gods, deities and spirit worshipped by the Tharus are Mote Baba, Katiar Baba, Bhuinya, Nagnihai, Jwala, Nari Masan, etc. Usually there is a small place of worship both inside and outside their houses. Now some of the well-to-do Tharus have started building temples on the Hindu pattern.

### Of Muslims

The Muslims of the district believe, as elsewhere, that there is one God Muhammad is their prophet. The main duties enjoined by Islam on their followers are the performance of *namaz* or prayers, five times a day individually or collectively, preferably in a mosque keeping the *roza* (fasts) in the month of Ramadan (usually called Ramzan) the performance of Hajj and the giving of *zakat* (a portion of ones income which should be given in charity),

In this district, as elsewhere, many Muslims have faith in *pirs* (Muslim saints) and hold *urs* at their tombs in commemoration of their death anniversaries. Their holy books is *Koran*.

### Of Sikhs

Sikhism is a monotheistic religion. It does not allow the practice of idolatry and recognises no caste distinctions. No Sikh is admitted to the privileges of the community until he has received the *pahul* (baptism), when he adopts the five 'K' 'S'—the *kesh* (uncut hair), the *kachah* (short drawers), the *kara* (iron bangle), the *kripan* (steel dagger) and the *kangha* (small tooth comb worn in the hair). The Sikhs attend congregational prayers in their *gurdwaras*. Their holy book is the *Granth Sahib*.

### Of Christians

The Christians believe in one God, His only son Jesus Christ and holy ghost and the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting. *Bible* is their holy book.

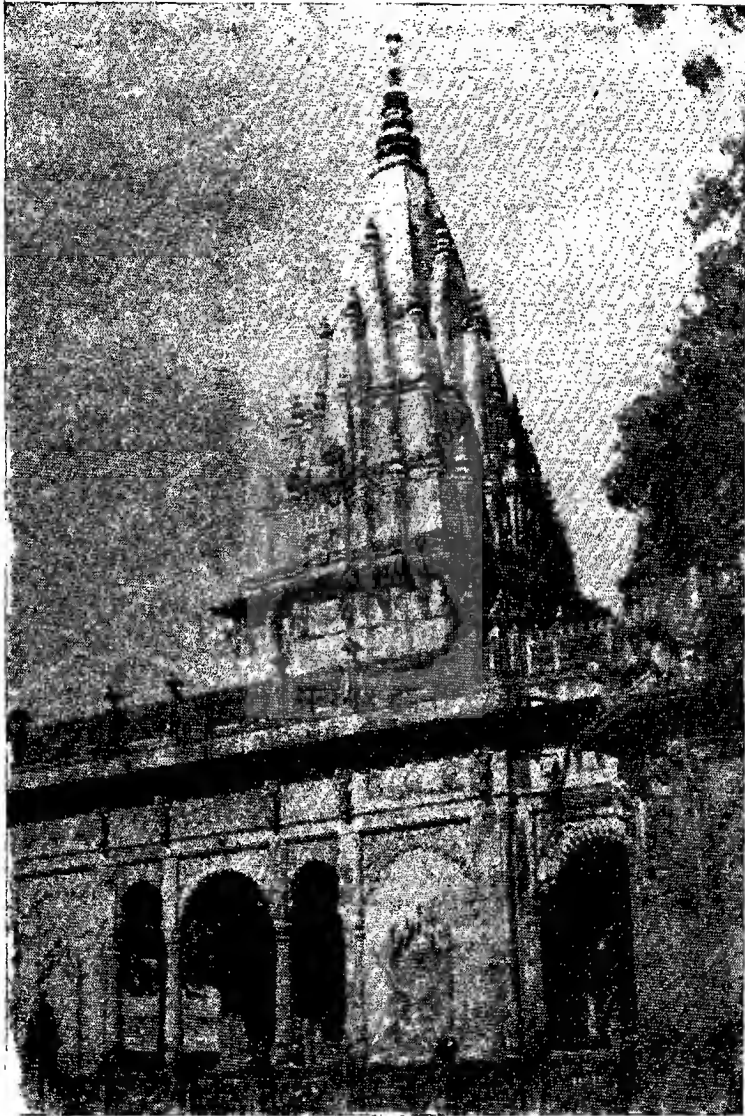
### Jains

Jains are closely associated with the Hindus as many social customs of both the communities are common. The Jains are the followers of the path of liberation shown by Jains (the conquerors and annihilators of *karmic* forces). The *tre-ratna* (three gems)—right faith, right knowledge and right conduct—constitute the path of *moksha* (liberation). According to Jainism the universe had no beginning and will have no end and no creator is necessary to explain the existence of the cosmos. They believe in *Ahimsa* and worship in their temples images of their *tirthankara* or Jinas.

### Of Buddhists

The main tenent of Buddhism is that while there is woe in the world the eight fold middle path of righteousness based on *Satya Vishwas* (right belief), *Satya Vichar* (right aspiration), *Satya Bhashan* (right speech), *Satya Karma* (right action), *Satya Prayatama* (right effort), *Satya Dhyana* (right recollection) and *Satya Bhao* (right rapture), leads to the end of sorrow and to the attainment of peace, enlightenment and nirvana.

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**Bijleshwari Temple, Tahsil Balrampur**

## Manners and Customs

Each community and caste has its own peculiar customs and manners, though the external pattern of life of all communities is almost becoming uniform under the socio economic stress of modern living. There is a prescribed ceremony for every important occasion in a person's life from birth to death. Some of the ceremonies which are prevalent among the Hindus are *Namakaran* (naming a child), *Mundan* (the first tonsure of the hair) the *Upanayan* (initiation ceremony), *Vivah* (marriage) and the *Antyesti* (the funeral) etc. *Namakaran* or the naming ceremony is celebrated generally within a month's of the child's birth followed by *Annaparasan* ceremony (the first feeding of the child with *khir* (made of rice, milk and sugar) nearly four months afterwards. *Vidyarambha* or initiation into the letters of the alphabet is gone through the 3rd or 5th year of the child. *Upanayan* ceremony common among the caste Hindus is the investiture of the boy with the sacred thread. The *Vivah* (marriage) among the Hindus is a sacrament and elaborate ceremonies described in detail later in this chapter, are gone through on the occasion.

*Antyeshthi* ceremony consists of a number of rituals performed at the time of cremating the dead.

Among the Tharus after the birth of a child the birth pollution is removed on the twelfth day by a bath.

Among the Muslims immediately after a child is born the call to prayer or *Azan* is recited in its ear. Before the child attains the age of five years he is, if a male, circumcized. This is usually followed by *Aqiqah* the first tonsure-ceremony on which occasion guests are invited and a feast arranged.

## Funeral Rites

The funeral rites are more or less uniform throughout the State. The Hindus including Jains and Sikhs, cremate their dead while Muslims and Christians bury them with some minor local variations.

Among the Tharus the dead are cremated, but those who have died without heirs are buried.

## Inter-caste Relations

Inter-caste and inter-sub-caste relations are no longer very rigid in the district. The dominant factor which controlled the relations between castes was the rigidity of the four fold caste system in which the society had been divided, each caste striving to maintain its purity and separate identity. The Brahmanas and the Kshatriyas were in the apex of the social hierarchy. The Chamars, sweepers, etc., and the tribals were considered as belonging to its lower strata and they were also prevented from contacts with the

upper castes. Inter-dining and inter-marriage were not looked upon with favour and untouchability was observed on an extensive scale. Even among the members of the same caste there were factors which stood in the way of free social intercourse. Some of the sub-castes claimed social superiority over the others and refused to marry or dine with those whom they considered as inferior to them.

Gradually the restrictive influences on free relations between castes and sub-castes are breaking down. Several factors have contributed for this change. The work of social reformers, growth of western education, increasing urbanisation, advancement of science and technology, rapid development of the means of communications and the introduction of adult franchise are primarily responsible for the improvement in inter-caste relations in recent times. With the dawn of Independence and the declaration of untouchability as illegal the social revolution entered a decisive phase and the barriers, which had hitherto made the national integration difficult, are fast breaking down.

#### NEW RELIGIOUS LEADERS AND MOVEMENTS

The Arya Samaj is a protestant and reformist movement within the Hindu religion. It was founded in 1869, by Swami Dayanand Saraswati. The Arya Samaj philosophy is monotheistic and professes to be a reversion to the original tenets as given in the *Vedas*. The objective is to reform and remove the perversion and distortions existing in the Hindu faith and to educate and initiate the people in the Vedic religion, free from rigid rituals and customs, incorporating in it simultaneously certain platitudes to which the more educated Hindus can subscribe without misgivings. Arya Samaj condemns idolatry *shraddh* early marriage and is opposed to the prevalent rigid caste system.

**Radhasoami**—There are some followers of Radhasoami sect which is an offshoot of the *bhakti* cult of Hinduism but is appreciably different from that religion. It is open to people belonging to any caste, religion or walk of life. The followers of the order are called *satsangis* and they believe that the true name of the supreme being is Radhasoami. That the universe has three division—the spiritual the spiritual—material and the material—spiritual and that the four essentials of religion are *sat-guru* (the true teacher), *sat-shabad* (the true word), *sat-sang* (the true association) and *sat-anurag* (the true love).

#### SOCIAL LIFE

##### Property and Inheritance

The laws governing succession and inheritance of property are the same in the district as in other parts of the State. The succession and inheritance of property other than agricultural holdings, amongst the Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists is governed by the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 which brought important changes



in the law of succession enabling a female heir to succeed to coparcenary property. The Muslims are governed by their personal law of succession and inheritance and the Christians by the Indian Succession Act, 1925. Till the enforcement of the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (Act No. 1 of 1951) the tenancy rights in agricultural land were governed according to the provisions of the U. P. Tenancy Act, 1939. But after enforcement of the Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act in the district in 1952 the succession to and transfer of agricultural holdings came to be regulated by it.

**Joint Family**—In this district, as elsewhere in the State, the institution of joint family, which has been a characteristic feature of the society since ancient times, is gradually disintegrating under the impact of various social and economic forces. The changing social structure, competition for earning a livelihood, the migration from one place to another in search of employment, the system of taxation and the exigencies of public services, the rapid industrialisation, urbanisation and the individualistic outlook of the younger generation are some of the main causes of the disintegration of the joint family system.

### Marriage and Morale

**Monogamy and Polygamy**—The people of the district have generally followed monogamy, but till a few decades ago polygamy was also not uncommon which was practised by the economically well-off persons particularly the zamindars. However the legal responsibility of maintaining the wife and children imposed by law also made polygamous marriages less attractive even to the affluent. In recent times enlightened legislation and public opinion has brought about a change and the society has, by and large, become monogamous. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 prohibits polygamy and makes it a penal offence for Hindus including Jains, Buddhists and Sikhs. In Christianity polygamy is prohibited by law and religion. Muslims are permitted by their personal law and custom to take more than one wife but not more than four at a time, but public opinion and economic factors have appreciably minimised the incidence of such marriages. polygamy is allowed among the Tharus by custom.

**Traditional Restriction On Marriage Alliance**—Marriage alliances among all castes and communities are subject to certain to traditional restrictions based on caste and the degree of relationship between the parties. Marriage alliances are generally with the people of the same caste and community. Nevertheless there have been exceptions to this rule. Marriage between blood relations is prohibited among all castes and communities. The Hindus, except for the Harijans, are divided into a number of subdivisions or *gotras*, which are endogamous and they can not marry amongst themselves. Now inter-caste and inter-religion marriages also take place and the government is also encouraging such marriages to secure national integration.

**Marriage Customs and Rituals**—Among the Hindus of the district, as elsewhere in the State, marriage is a sacrament, its rites being prescribed in the scriptures and to some extent by custom and traditions. The Hindu marriage is not a contract but a union of two souls, two bodies and two spiritual heredities solemnized by priest calling upon all the deities the elements, the river, the mountain and nature itself to witness the union and to bless the couple to keep solemn vows of love and loyalty to each other and perform their duties towards society. A few variations in the performance of the different rites from caste to caste or from family to family within a caste are not uncommon. Marriages are performed in traditional months and only on auspicious days and hour chosen by the priest.

Marriages are generally settled by the parents of the two parties, the girl's side usually approaching the boys for negotiations. *Barichha* (engagement) is the first ceremony connected with a Hindu marriage when presents of money and other gifts are given by the bride's people to the bridegroom and his relatives. It is followed by the fixing of the date when the *tilak* or *lagan* ceremony is performed at the bridegroom's house, the bride's people again sending presents and an intimation of the date and time fixed for the marriage ceremony. On the fixed date the bridegroom goes to the bride's house with the *barat* (marriage party) where the ceremony of *dwarpuja* (the reception of the bridegroom at the door of the bride's house) takes place. This is followed by *kanyadan* (giving away of the bride) and *bhanwar* or *saptapadi* (going round the sacred fire seven times) ceremonies, the last two being the most essential rites of the marriage ceremony. The next day the *vida* (going away of the bride) ceremony takes place.

Marriage among the Tharus, as among the Hindus, is settled by the parents of the bride and bridegroom. The *barat* goes dancing to the bride's house where they are given a hearty reception with much feasting and drinking. To the girl, at the time of marriage, the parents, make a present of some clothes and jewellery.

Among Muslims marriage is contract. The amount of dower (*mehr*) may be fixed before the actual marriage takes place. The proposal of marriage generally comes from the bridegroom's side. After its acceptance the *mangni* (asking for the bride) takes place. On the day of marriage the *barat* (bridegroom's party) goes to the bride's house where the *nikah* (actual marriage) takes place. The bride's *vakil* who is usually an elderly relative in the presence of two witnesses obtains the consent of the bride and the bridegroom to contracting the marriage and informs their parents accordingly and conveys it to the bridegroom. The *qazi* (Muslim functionary who solemnises marriage) then reads the *khutbah* (a sermon specially that is preached in mosque on Friday and on two Ids) and the marriage ceremony is over. The bridegroom is then introduced to the bride's family and the *rukshat* (taking leave) takes place, the bride and bridegroom going away to the latter's house. Among the Shias instead of the *qazi* two *mujtahids* or *maulvis* (one from each side) perform the marriage ceremony. The guardian of a minor can enter into a marriage contract on behalf of the ward.

Among Christians, the marriage is governed by the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, as amended by the Act 48 of 1952. The marriage custom usually follow the same general pattern as elsewhere in the State. The marriage may be contracted either by the parties concerned or may be arranged by parents or their relatives. The banns are published three times (once every week) by the priest of the church, where the marriage is to be solemnised, in order to invite objections if any. On the fixed date the marriage ceremony is performed in the church by the pastor in the presence of invitess. The essentials of the marriage ceremony being the giving away of the bride by the father (or other relative or friend) the repeating aloud, after the priest of the marriage vows by the bride and the bridegroom, the placing of a ring by the bridegroom on the third finger of the bride's left hand (sometimes the two exchange rings), the pronouncement of the couple as husband and wife by the priest and the signing of the marriage register by the couple and their relatives. Then the wedding festivities follow.

The important ceremonies in a Sikh marriage are the recitation of the extracts from the *Granth Sahib* and the couple going around the holy book four times.

A Jain marriage, is in no way different than a Hindu marriage except that the Jains also recite the sacred hymns from scriptures and worship their deities.

### Dowry

The dowry system is a social evil from which the people of the district are not immune. In general, however, dowry consists of cash, jewellery, clothes and other household effects which the bride brings with her and includes presents given to her or to him in various ceremonies connected with the marriage. In spite of the attempts of social reformers of past and the present, to do away with it, the evil still persists. Though the Dowry prohibition Act 1961 provides that giving, taking and demanding of dowry are offences punishable under law, yet as the institution is deep rooted not much headway could be made towards its eradication.

**Civil Marriage**—The Special Marriage Act, 1954 provides for the performance and registration of marriages by a marriage officer in the district. People are not inclined for civil marriages. They resort to it only when marriage under personal law becomes impossible. Generally couples desirous of marrying for love or marrying in another caste or sub-caste go in for such marriages when parents of both of them, or either of them raise objections to their union.

### Marital Age

The Statement III at the end of the chapter shows the distribution of the population of the district according to marital status in various age-groups in 1971.

**Widow Marriage**—The Hindu Widow Remarriage Act, 1856, provides for the remarriage of a widow but an orthodox Hindu widow abhors remarriage, knowing fully well that widowhood is her greatest misfortune in life. Long though before the promulgation of the aforesaid Act, the Arya Samaj, however, advocated and performed widow remarriages according to the vedic rites. But the number of such marriages is very small, particularly among the higher classes. Among the Christians and Muslims the marriage of widow has all along been allowed. The Tharus also permit widow remarriage.

**Divorce**—Before 1955 Hindu law did not permit divorce except among the Scheduled Caste amongst whom the dissolution of marriage was possible only with the sanction of the panchayat concerned. The Hindu Marriage Act 1955, has made divorce legal under certain conditions and circumstances. The Muslim law permits the husband to divorce the wife on payment of *mahr* (stipulated amount decided upon at time of marriage). The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act, 1939, gives under certain conditions, the right to the wife to claim dissolution of her marriage. Among the Tharus a divorce is easy.

Generally women seldom seek divorce as they do not relish the idea particularly a Hindu women abhors it. They seek it only when no alternative is left to them. Men are more prone to seek divorce in the expectation of a better life partner which is much easier for them to obtain than their female counterpart.

During the period of five years from 1972 to 1976 only 20 men and 18 women sought divorce in courts of law which permitted only in 19 cases.

### **Economic Dependence of Women**

In the past the economic dependence of women was proverbial and they were subject to social handicaps that usually went with their sex. In recent times women have successfully freed themselves from many restrictions on their freedom and have become active in many walks of life. Many are competing for jobs with men and have creditably earned employment in all cadres of services in public and private establishments. Among the poorer classes women work in large numbers as labourers agricultural and industrial workers and supplement the family income.

### **Prostitution and Traffic in Women**

With the enforcement of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls' Act 1956 in the district in 1958 brothels have ceased to exist, yet this social evil has not been completely eradicated. There still being some girls in the trade in a clandestine manner. In 1976 two women were prosecuted in Gonda tahsil. A number of prostitutes have now adopted the profession of dancing and singing only.

## Drinking

Liquor's use is common among the lower strata of the society. Some among the affluent are also given to drinking. Efforts of the government and other voluntary social organisation have failed to bring any appreciable decrease in use of alcohol.

The Tharus, as a class are fond of liquor. Even the women and children are addicted to drinking and prepare their principal intoxicating drinks from rice.

**Gambling**—The Public Gambling Act, 1867 (Act No. 3 of 1867) as applicable to the State under the Uttar Pradesh Public Gambling Acts of 1952, and 1961, prohibits gambling in the district. But the evil of gambling, to which the Hindu associates a traditional religious basis at the time of Divali, is still prevalent both in the rural as well as urban areas. Some Hindus ascertain the prospects of the coming year from the losses or gains in gambling on Divali night.

The following statement shows the number of prosecutions and convictions during last five years :

Name of tahsil	Prosecution					Conviction				
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Gonda	5	1	-	2	10	5	1	-	2	-
Tarabganj	-	-	-	5	30	-	-	-	5	20
Utraula	-	11	3	1	1	-	11	3	1	1
Balrampur	2	2	-	1	2	2	2	-	1	2

## Home Life

The Statement IV at the end of the chapter shows the classification of households by their size and tenure status in the district

In 1971 the district contained 4,35,500 households (group of persons ordinarily living together taking meal from the same kitchen) of whom 4,10,960 were in rural areas and 24,540 in urban areas. The average size of a household in the district was about 6 to 7 persons. The households in one room tenement being 27.7 per cent. in two room tenements 31.7 per cent. in three room houses, 21.0 per cent. in four room houses 11 per cent and in five room houses 8.6 per cent. The majority of persons i.e. 97.2 were found to be residing in their own houses and 2.2 in rented ones.

**Houseless**—In 1971 there were 329 houseless households having 665 males and 473 females.

The tahsilwise break up of such population is given in the following statement :

District/tahsil	No. of house- hold	houseless population		
		Persons	Males	Females
Gonda District	329	1,138	665	473
Gonda	122	270	163	107
Balrampur	89	414	232	182
Utraula	62	263	162	101
Tarabganj	56	191	108	83

**Institutional**—The institutional population numbered 1,885 persons (1,668 males and 217 females) the number of households being 164 of these 66 were in urban and 98 in rural areas.

The tahsilwise distribution of institutional population is given in the following statement :

District/tahsil	No. of house- holds	Institutional population		
		Persons	Males	Females
Gonda District	164	1,885	1,668	217
Gonda	50	813	721	92
Balrampur	47	487	462	25
Tarabganj	34	257	197	60
Utraula	33	328	288	40

**Type of Dwellings**—There is difference between the shape, size and durability of residential buildings found in the rural and urban areas of the district.

In the rural area small and one storeyed structures are most common. The walls are generally constructed of mud, plastered inside and outside with clay and bearing roofs of grass, leaves, reeds, thatch, wood, unburnt bricks or bamboo. In 1971, 69.3 per cent rural houses had mud walls and 60.0 per cent rural houses had roofs of grass, leaves, reeds, thatch, wood, unburnt bricks or bamboo. The facilities and accommodation in the houses of the lower classes are however, awfully meagre. They are generally small, windowless single roomed. The entire construction is of very poor type.

In the towns, pucca houses are built with burnt bricks and lime with cement plastering. Masonary work accounts for most of the roof material in urban areas. Material used in the construction of houses in urban areas is generally durable. The houses consist of several apartments, each for the specific purpose and provided with adequate vantilation and ingress.

In Tharu habitations the material used in construction of houses are wooden posts, rafters and beams which are procured from the jungles whereas the grass, wattle, straw and mud are locally available. The houses are usually rectangular and the roof are conical in shape. The roofing is seldom done with tiles, grass being most commonly used which projects on all sides sloping downwards.

### Furniture and Decoration

The possession of furniture varies with the economic status of a person and his social standing.

The rural people have little furniture except the ordinary string cot, a wooden *takht* (backless and armless couch), low stools etc., but well-to-do use chairs made of wood or reed. In towns the officials, flourishing businessmen and other wealthy people go in for modern furniture.

Usually people eat out of metal utensils while sitting on the ground, either on low wooden stools *chowkis* or on mats or carpets. Orthodox people take their meals in or near the *chauka* (kitchen). Those who can afford and have adopted modern ways of living use dining tables placed in the nearby room or verandah and use crockery or utensils made of stainless steel. They also suitably decorate their rooms, particularly the drawing-room.

Among the Tharus the furniture consist of wooden or stringed bedsteads, stools made of strings with wooden framework, mats and baskets. In some houses wooden or stringed chairs, all made by the people themselves are also seen.

**Dress**—In the district the ordinary dress of a man in the urban areas is a shirt (*kurta*) and a dhoti or pyjama. While going out however, they put on trousers with coat, shirt or bush shirt, etc. In the villages, their common dress is *dhoti*, *saluka* (short shirt) and an *angochha* (rectangular scarf used for many purposes) with a turban or cap. The usual garment worn by the women-folk is sari and a blouse. The Punjabi women however put on *salwar*, *kurta* and *dupatta* (long scarf for the head and shoulder). Some Muslim women still wear *churidar* pyjama or *garara* (wide and loose pyjamas) with *kurta* and *dupatta*. In the towns young girls are seen wearing modern dresses like maxi, or bell bottomed pyjamas with shirts. In the villages, on ceremonial occasions Hindu ladies wear the *lehnga* (long wide shirt) and *saluka* or loose blouse and the *orn* (a long piece of cloth thrown round the upper part of the body).

Some urban woman use cosmetics such as face-powder, lipstick, nail polish, eyebrow pencils and many other such items. A few women also use *surma* (antimony ground into fine powder) to enhance the beauty of their eyes.

**Ornaments**—Men do not wear jewellery except rings in their fingers and sometimes a golden chain round their necks. The ornaments worn by the women are usually made of gold and silver. They

wear different types of ornaments on the ear, nose, wrist and round the waist and neck according to their status, the more common being bangles, finger-rings, ear-rings and nose-rings, nose-stud, armlet bracelets and anklets. Married women wear *bichua* (an ornament for the toes). The ornaments worn above the waist are made usually of gold.

In the rural areas women generally wear anklets, as do those in the urban areas who have not taken to modern wavs, and *pachhaila* (wristlets).

The ornaments of the Tharu women are *tika*, necklace, nose-ring, finger-ring and ear-ring which are made of gold and silver.

**Food**—The pattern of food habits of the people throughout the district is more or less the same, though there are minor variations in detail among the various communities. The main staple food of the district is rice, wheat, barley, jowar, gram and other millets. The pulses consumed are *arhar*, *moog* and *urd*.

Generally people, both in the rural and urban areas, in addition to the morning breakfast and afternoon tiffin, take two regular meals a day. The breakfast consists of milk or tea and *chapati* or *paratha*. *Gur* (jaggery) and sugar are the chief sweetening agents. Among edible fats *ghee*, vegetable oil and mustard oil are commonly used. Fruits and fresh vegetables are also consumed but on a lesser scale. People are fond of spices, pickles and chutneys.

Tea, on account of not being costly, has become the popular beverage with all classes of people and tea stalls in towns and big villages are fast becoming centres of social gossiping. In the summer season people prefer cold drinks or sherbet in addition to *lassi* which is prepared from curd.

#### COMMUNAL LIFE

Several amusement and festivities which are common in other parts of the state, are also prevalent in this district.

In villages folk-songs (*kajri* and *malhar*) accompanied by the harmonium and *dhholak* (small drum) and recitation of the heroic tales of Alha and Udal provide ample pastime. Religious gatherings as a pleasant pastime in the evening, are common in which recitations from the sacred books is done, mostly by Brahmanas, to the accompaniment of musical instruments. Some festivals are occasions for gatherings and general rejoicings. During spring people sing *phags* (Holi folk-songs) till late at night.

In the urban area the most common and usual entertainment is visit to a cinema house. the towns of Gorla and Balrampur having two each which can accommodate about 2,000 persons at a time. The next most common form of entertainment is listening to the light music programme broadcast by All India Radio. A few amuse themselves with television also.



Besides there are temporary cinema houses in Pachparwa, Tulsipur (both in Balrampur tahsil), Babhnan, Mankapur, Utraula (all in Utraula tahsil) Nawabganj and Colonelganj (both in Tarabganj tahsil). Sometimes circus also provides recreation to the people of and when, it organises its shows in the district.

### Pilgrim Centres

Devi Patan with the ancient temple of goddess Durga is the most famous pilgrim centre of the district where people assemble from all over country and worship the Devi specially in the month of Chaitra during Nav-ratri.

### Communal Dances

In this district a particular type of dance is performed by Tharus boys or men in which girls and women do not participate. A boy of fifteen or sixteen is dressed as a woman, and his partner beats a small drum suspended from his neck. The pair advances and retreats with a gliding motion, and represents with coarse fidelity the advances of the lover and the coyness of the maid. As they proceed they get excited. After two hours of the dancing and the infusion of a large amount of raw spirits they display ecstatic but somewhat ludicrous rapture through their faces and through every limb of the drummer. Every now and then the dancing gives place to a dramatic interlude, in which a dullard is made the butt of the rough and occasionally obscene wit of the leading actor.

### Amusement and Festivities

Various festivals are celebrated by different communities which are closely associated with the different systems of time-reckoning or calendars in vogue in different parts of the country. The Hindus of the district generally follow the Vikram Samvat (era). Its origin is traced to the semi-mythical king Vikramaditya from the date of whose coronation it is believed to have begun. Vikram Samvat precedes the Christian era by fifty six years.

Muslims in the district celebrate their festivals according to Hijri era; but for accounting and commercial purposes, the Vikram era is followed. The Hijri era is Arabic in origin. It came into being from the 15th day of July 622 A. D. in the 42nd year of life of prophet Muhammad to commemorate his migration (*hijrat*) from Mecca to Madina.

Jains generally follow Vir (nirvana) Samvatsara which commenced in 527 B. C. from the day, on which Mahavir the last of the twenty-four *tirthankars*, attained nirvana.

Christians in the district follow the Gregorian calendar, which is generally followed in the country for all practical purposes.

Festivals, as they are celebrated in the country, symbolise people's cultural, social and religious aspirations which, besides helping them to lead a fuller better life, also mitigate its monotony by providing physical diversion and mental recreation. Though principally associated with religion, there are a number of occasions wherein the social aspect assumes prominence. Festivals may be described as special days, periods of time and season, which are so arranged as to ensure both individual and communal rejoicing by practising religion coupled with social joy and domestic happiness. They are generally related with religious occasions or agricultural operations, the main occupation of the people.

**Hindus**—The series of Hindu festivals starts with Sheetla Astami, which falls on the 8th day of the first fortnight of Chaitra, the first month of the Hindu calendar, when goddess Sheetla is worshipped.

Rama Navami is celebrated on the ninth day of the bright-half of Chaitra, which is observed as the birthday of Lord Ram. Devotees fast on this day. The temples of Ram where recitations from *Ramayana* are a common feature are beautifully decorated and illuminated at night. A fair on this occasion is held in Lakarmandi in tahsil Tarabganj.

Naga Panchami is celebrated on the fifth day of the bright half of Sravana when the *nagas* (serpent gods) are propitiated. Offerings of milk, flowers and rice are made to *nagas*. It is also celebrated as a rainy season festival, women and girls sing *kajaris* (folk-songs) during these days. The recreation of swinging in the air is customary particularly on this occasion.

Raksha-bandhan falls on the full-moon day of Sravana. On this day the sister ties a *raksha-sutra* or *rakhi* (protective thread or cord) round the right wrist of her brother, as a token of protection she expects to receive from him.

Janamastami, the festival celebrating the birth of Lord Krishna, falls on the eighth day of the dark-half of Bhadra. The devotees fast the whole day, breaking their fast with the eating of *prasad* (food offered to an idol) at midnight. Temples and small shrines in homes are specially decorated and *jhankies* (glimpses) are arranged depicting various phases of Krishna's life. Singing of devotional songs in praise of Krishna is a special feature of the festival. The *chhati* (sixth-day ceremony after birth) of the deity is also celebrated by some persons.

Kajri-teej is primarily a festival of the women folk. Women wear colourful clothes, sing *kajri* (folk-song) and pray. Worship of Mahadewa on the occasion by married ladies is considered to be specially rewarding. Big fairs are held at Rajapur Bharia in tahsil Balrampur; Utraula notified area Nayanagar, Barhya Farid Khan and Karauhan (in tahsil Utraula).

Dasahra is celebrated on the tenth day of the bright half of *Asvina* to commemorate the victory of Lord Ram over Ravana. *Ramlila* celebrations are held at different places in the district. Big fairs are held at Utraula, Dari chaura, Sahderiya, Achalpur Chaudri in tahsil Utraula.

The fourth day of the bright-half of *Kartika* is known as *Karva Chauth*, when married women fast until the moon is visible when they worship, for the well being and long life of their husbands.

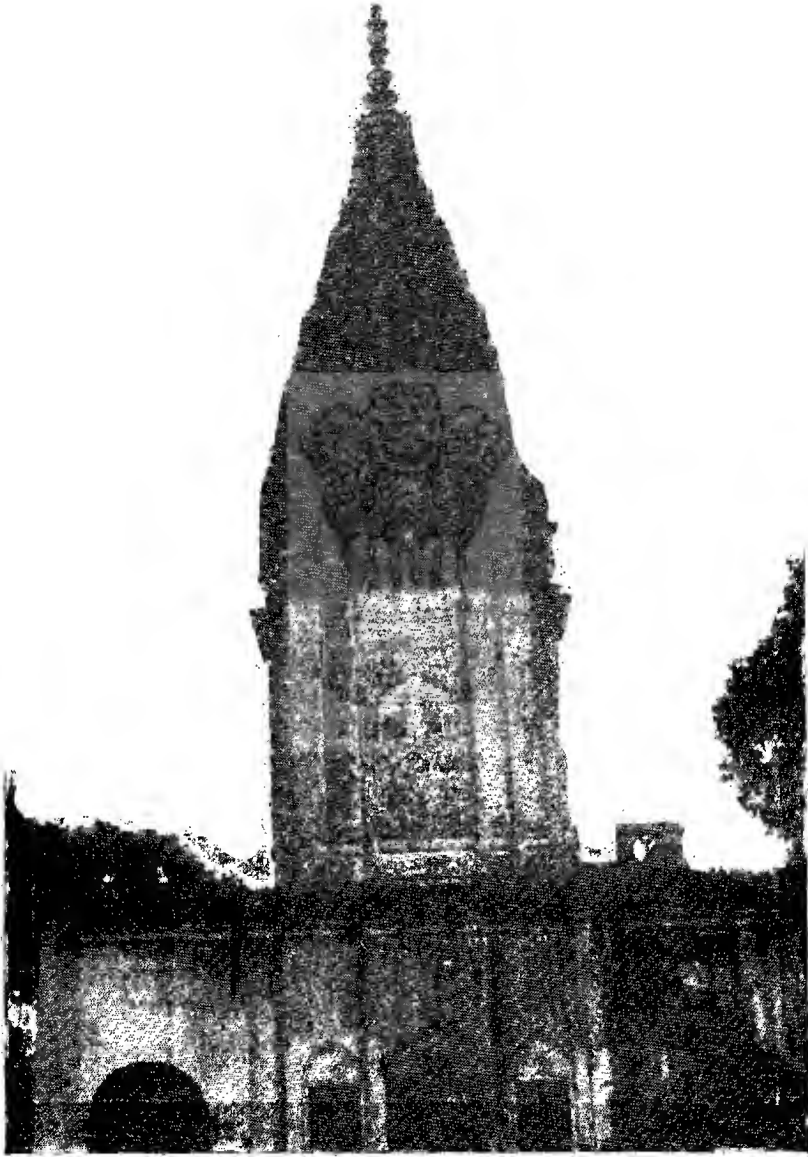
*Diwali* or *Dipavali*, the festival of lights is another major festival of Hindus. This festival is celebrated on the last day of the dark-half of *kartika*. Festivities start two days earlier with *Dhanteras*, the birthday of *Dhanvantari* (the divine physician) when metal utensils are purchased as a token of prosperity. The next day on *Narak-Chaudas* (or *Choti Diwali*), a small earthen lamp (*diya*) is lit by many near the drain of the courtyard. On the main day of the festival every home and shop of Hindus is illuminated and the goddess *Lakshmi* along with *Ganesha* is worshipped at night usually at the scheduled time when crackers and fireworks are freely used, in every home according to ones standard and capacity. For the traders and businessmen *Diwali* (or *Dipavali*) marks the end of a fiscal year and they pray for prosperity in the new year. There is no fasting on this occasion as *Diwali* is regarded as festival of feasting. The day has a special significance for Jains who also celebrate it because their twenty-fourth *tirthankara*, Mahavir attained nirvana on this day. On the following day *Govardhan Puja* (*Annkoot*) is performed. With cow-dung, a replica, of *Govardhana* *Parvat* is made and worshipped. On the third of bright-half of *Kartika*, *Bhaiya Dooj* is celebrated when woman put mark (*tika*) on the forehead of their brothers.

*Kartika Purnima*, a bathing festival, falls on the full-moon day of *Kartika*, when people take a bath in the *Ghaghara*. Big fairs are held at *Balrampur* and *Chitaurgarh* (in tahsil *Balrampur*); *Bajua Masmule* a *Pakrhi Bhuwar*, *Narainpur*, *Gondas Buzurg*, *Budhipur*, *Rampur Grant*, *Mankapur*, *Chanradip* and *Chhapia* (in tahsil *Utraula*); *Pure Tendua*, *Rajgarhainpur*, *Beerpur* (*Belpur*), and *Sonikapur* (in tahsil *Gonda*), *Lakarmandi*, *Katra Shah Bazar*, *Nawabganj* (*Patparganj*) and *Sakraura* (in tahsil *Tarabganj*).

*Makar Sankranti* is a festival which is celebrated every year on the 13th or 14th of January. The food of many in the morning consists of *khichri* (rice mixed with pulse). Presents of *khichri*, ghee, salt, etc. are given to the *Brahmana*. A fair is held on this occasion at *Gurgaon* in tahsil *Utraula*.

*Vasanta Panchami* which falls on the 5th day of the latter fortnight of *Magha*, is devoted to the worship of *Saraswati*, the goddess of learning.

*Sivratni* is celebrated in honour of *Siva* and falls on the thirteenth day of *Phalguna*. A fast is observed during the day and a



**Varha Temple, Paska, Tahsil Tarabganj**

vigil is kept at night when the god is worshipped. The temples of Siva are specially decorated and the devotees offer water, flowers and rice and *belpatras* (the leave of the bael) to the icon and devotional songs in praise of Siva are sung throughout the day. Big fairs are held at Utraula, Etaee Rampur, Nayanagar, Barhya Farid Khan, Karauhan, Tejpur, Bhawazidpur, Daulatpur Muafi, Allipur, Kot Khas, and Patjiya Buzurg (in tahsil Utraula).

Holi, the festival of spring, falls on the last day of Phalguna. People start singing *phaags* (songs of Holi) long before the actual day of the festival. Big open air fires are lit a day before on the important cross-roads of every town and village of the district to celebrate the annihilation of the forces of evil. Ears of newly harvested barley are roasted as offering to gods. Common rejoicing marks the following day of the festival when, till about noon, people throw coloured water and powder on each others and in the evening visit relations and friends, and exchange greetings with an embrace. This festival is taking the shape of a national festival and is celebrated by people of all religions.

**Faris**—There are many big fairs which are held in the district, the important ones being, Devi Patan, Paska and Manorama. The fair at Devi Patan in Tulsipur, tahsil Balrampur is held from the 1st to the 15th of the bright half of Chaitra. The devotees throng the temple of the goddess (Durga), worship her and make offerings which at times include sacrifice of pigs at the altar of the deity. A brisk trade also takes place during the period when wood, spices, carpets, cloth utensils and agricultural implements are sold in the fair which attracts nearly 1,00,000 people.

Another important fair is held at Paska which is situated near Paraspur on the bank of river Saraju. Here God Varha is said to have been born. The fair is held in the month of Magha when people from far and near come and do *Kalpvas* (leading a pious life in the month of Magha on the banks of a river) on the banks of the river Sarayu. Paska fair attracts nearly 50,000 people.

Another significant fair is of Manorama which is held at Tirre Manorma near Itiathoke on Kartiki Purnima. The fair is famous for the Ashram of Dalak Rishi.

The Tharus celebrate most of the Hindu festivals with slight variations. Dances usually form a necessary part of the celebration by them. The principal festivals which they celebrate are Dasahra, Divali, Makar Sankranti and Holi.

**Muslims**—Barawafat, the birthday of the prophet Muhammad, is celebrated on the twelfth day of Rabi-ul-awwal. On this occasion alms are distributed and people gather to listen discourses (Milad Sharif) on the life of the prophet.

Sab-e-Barat is celebrated on the night of the fourteenth day of Shaban when prayers (*fatehas*) are offered by people for the peace

of the souls of their departed kins. The festival is marked by display of fireworks and distribution of sweets.

Id-ul-Fitr falls on the first day of the month of Shawal when thanks giving prayers are offered by Muslims in mosques for the successful completion of the fasts of the previous month of Ramadan. On this day the entire Muslim male population repairs either to the idgah or a mosque for attending congregational prayers. People wear new clothes on the occasion, embrace each other and exchange greetings. There is also much rejoicing and feasting in every home, particular care being taken to prepare *sewains* (a sweet dish of noodles).

Id-uz-Zuha (or Bakra-Id) falls on the tenth day of the month of Zilhijja to commemorate the occasion when prophet Ibrahim submitted himself to the will of God. Men attend morning prayers in Idgahs or mosques and on return sacrifice, sheep and he goats in God's name either individually or collectively and distribute a part of the meat among relations, friends and the needy.

Giarihween Sharif is a festival of special significance for the Sunnis of the district. It is observed on the eleventh day of the month of Rabi-us-sani in honour of Abdul Qadir Jilani, an early Muslim divine of Baghdad, acclaimed as a descendant of the Prophet Muhammed. Prayers, sweets and flowers are offered in his memory on this occasion.

Muharram is observed by mourning on the first ten days of the month of the same name that commemorate the tragedy of Karbala which witnessed the martyrdom of Imam Hussain (the grandson of the prophet Muhammad) and his companions. Though this occasion has special significance for the Shias, the Sunnis of the district also take part in some of the observances. The *imambaras* (building for the performance of religious ceremonies) illuminated on the eighth and ninth day of the month where *majlises* are also held from the first to the ninth day. *Tazias* (replicas of the tombs of Imam Hussain and Hasan, generally made of coloured paper and bamboo) are taken out in procession separately by Shias and Sunnis on Ashra, the tenth day.

Chelhum falls on the 40th day from *Ashra*. It marks the end of the period of mourning.

Besides these traditional and orthodox festivals, *urs* celebrations are held at the tombs of pirs (Muslim saints).

**Sikh**—The important festival of the Sikhs are the birthdays of their gurus, Nanak Deo, Tegh Bahadur and Govind Singh when processions are taken out and congregational prayers held in *gurdwaras*. Portions from the *Granth* are recited. The Baisakhi is another festival celebrated by them. Local fairs are held at *gurdwaras* on each occasion. Lohri is another festival of Sikhs celebrated with gush on the eve of Makar Sankranti. On every festival *langar* (alms given to the gathering) are special features in the *gurdwaras*.

**Jain**—The Jains of the district celebrate the birth and nirvana anniversaries of Parshvanath and Mahavir, their twenty-third and twenty-fourth *tirthankaras* respectively. Paryushan, the last ten days of Bhadra, and Asthanika falling on the last eight days of Kartika are the other important festivals of the Jains.

**Christian**—The main festivals of the Christians are Christmas, the birthday of Jesus Christ which falls on 25th of December, Good Friday (in March or April), the day of Jesus Christ's crucifixion and Easter (which falls on Sunday in March or April), the day of his resurrection. People attend services in churches and exchange greetings and presents. On Christmas eve scenes from the nativity of Christ are enacted and cribs are set up in the churches.

A list of important fairs and festivals is given in Statement V at the end of the chapter.

### Public Games and Recreation Clubs

Traditional games of the district are somewhat same as of the other parts of the State. These are *kabaddi*, *gulli-danda* (Indian games) and kite flying, etc. Among modern games football, volley-ball, hockey, cricket, and table-tennis are played. Among the modern indoor games, particularly in urban areas carrom, chess, luda and games of cards are popular. Newspaper reading is also a popular pastime with the masses in the district. There are two clubs in the district which are Vayanktachar club and Anjuman club.

### IMPACT OF ZAMINDARI ABOLITION ON SOCIAL LIFE

The U. P. Zamindari and Land Reforms Act, 1950, (Act No. 1 of 1951), which came into force in July 1952, has brought about many changes in the social and economic life of the people. The rural elite, which consisted mainly of the zamindars, who had been exploiting actual tillers of the land for several centuries, have now been replaced by a community of progressive farmers owing land and cultivating it with full vigour and adopting modern techniques of agriculture. The rights of the zamindars in *abadi* land (inhabited sites), *parti* (fallow land) *banjar* (barren land) etc. were abolished and rights of actual tillers enhanced. The practice of *begar* (forced unpaid or underpaid labour) and *nazrana* (premium) also came to an end with the abolition of the zamindari system. So not only the per capita availability of farm produce has increased but the general prosperity of the people has also improved manifesting itself in better standard of living, food dress, and other habits. More educational institutions are coming up rapidly through voluntary efforts to combat the forces of ignorance.

## STATEMENT I

## Area and Population

Reference Page No. 48

District/Tahsil	Area			1971			1971		
	Square Km.			Persons			Persons		
	1971	1961	1961	1971	1961	1961	1971	1961	1961
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
District	7,331.0	7,430.5	23,02,029	12,27,448	10,74,581	20,73,237	10,72,818	10,00,419	
Rural	7,302.3	7,403.9	21,71,913	11,56,396	10,15,517	19,71,981	10,17,629	9,54,352	
Urban	28.7	26.6	1,30,116	71,052	59,064	1,01,256	55,189	46,067	
Balrampur	2,569.0	2,549.9	5,90,382	3,19,112	2,71,270	5,38,731	2,84,630	2,54,101	
Rural	2,558.4	2,511.4	5,44,592	2,94,158	2,50,434	5,06,955	2,87,252	2,38,703	
Urban	10.6	8.5	45,790	24,954	20,836	31,776	17,378	14,398	
Utraula	1,554.3	1,547.0	5,88,656	3,10,772	2,77,884	5,11,065	2,61,269	2,49,796	
Rural	1,552.2	1,544.4	5,76,019	3,03,996	2,72,023	5,01,000	2,55,932	2,45,068	
Urban	2.6	2.6	12,637	6,776	5,861	10,065	5,337	4,728	
Gonda	1,655.0	1,649.3	6,02,729	3,22,435	2,80,294	5,43,122	2,79,737	2,63,385	
Rural	1,644.4	1,638.7	5,50,067	2,93,312	2,56,755	4,99,626	2,55,890	2,43,736	
Urban	10.6	10.6	52,662	29,123	23,539	43,496	23,847	19,649	
Tarabganj	1,690.0	1,684.3	8,20,262	2,75,129	2,45,133	4,80,319	2,47,182	2,33,137	
Rural	1,685.1	1,679.4	5,01,235	2,64,930	2,36,305	4,64,400	2,36,555	2,25,845	
Urban	4.9	4.9	19,027	10,199	8,828	15,919	8,627	7,292	



STATEMENT II  
Languages

Reference Page No. 52

Languages	Persons
1	2
Hindi	20,07,042
Urdu	2,89,366
Avadhi	2,554
Punjabi	1,583
Bhojpuri	467
Bengali	333
Sindhi	327
Gorakhali/Nepali	180
Marathi	48
Malayalam	21
Gujarati	20
Marwari	20
Arabic/Arbi, English, Bihari, Gurmukhi, Pahari, Tamil, Assamese and Dogri	Each having less than 20 persons



## STATEMENT III

## Marital Status

Reference Page No. 62

Age group	Total population	Unmarried		Married		Widowed		Divorced		Unspecified	
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0-9	6,13,282	3,27,038	2,86,244	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-14	2,64,451	1,22,378	58,372	33,639	49,337	320	340	25	30	10	-
15-19	1,78,023	47,476	9,834	51,670	67,508	910	385	170	80	10	-
20-24	1,70,883	19,744	1,110	61,681	85,232	1,710	691	530	180	5	15
25-29	1,80,819	11,188	205	77,846	86,328	3,303	1,270	569	180	-	-
30-34	1,77,807	7,327	1,504	74,409	87,050	4,973	1,784	640	120	-	-
35-39	1,49,429	5,558	120	70,259	63,675	5,328	3,569	540	380	-	-
40-44	1,44,319	3,351	65	63,209	59,971	8,816	8,492	365	30	20	-
45-49	1,04,032	1,875	50	47,129	33,923	6,957	8,748	250	80	-	20
50-54	1,04,363	1,796	320	46,331	29,853	9,598	16,240	190	35	-	-
55-59	53,283	901	20	20,831	16,759	5,740	8,902	120	10	-	-
60-64	74,713	1,016	190	27,530	13,079	9,708	22,530	40	20	-	-
65-69	29,970	390	-	10,507	7,084	4,357	7,517	80	20	5	-
70 +	56,528	1,781	470	16,248	6,770	8,993	22,196	50	20	-	-
Age not stated	55	11	34	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	23,02,028	5,51,830	3,58,538	6,01,299	6,12,179	70,715	1,02,844	3,569	1,165	35	35

## STATEMENT IV

*Households with their Size Tenure Status*

Reference Page No. 64

Total district Rural/Urban	Tenure status	Total No. of census households	Households having number of persons							No. of persons unspecified
			One person	Two persons	Three persons	Four persons	Five persons	Six persons		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
District total	Owned and rented	4,35,500	28,480	45,025	54,285	65,795	62,985	1,78,865	65	
	Owned	4,23,425	25,745	43,190	52,605	64,185	61,575	1,76,065	60	
	Rented	12,075	2,735	1,835	1,680	1,610	1,410	2,800	5	
Rural total	Owned and rented	4,10,980	25,880	42,445	51,560	62,595	59,720	1,68,695	65	
	Owned	4,06,445	24,635	41,575	50,910	62,010	59,265	1,67,990	60	
	Rented	4,515	1,245	870	650	585	455	705	5	
Urban total	Owned and rented	24,540	2,600	2,580	2,725	3,200	3,265	10,170	-	
	Owned	16,980	1,110	1,615	1,695	2,175	2,310	8,075	-	
	Rented	7,560	1,490	965	1,030	1,025	955	2,095	-	

## STATEMENT V

*Fairs*

Reference Page No. 73

Place	Name of fair or its association with	Period	Average daily attendance
1	2	3	4

## TAHSIL BALRAMPUR

Balrampur town	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	10,000
Chitaurgarh		" "	1,000
Mathura	Dargah Peer "Haneef"	Zilhija 10 "	1,000
Rajapur Bharia	Ketri Teej	Bhadra, <i>sukla</i> 3	2,000
Tulsiapur	Devi Patan	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 1-15	1,00,000

## TAHSIL UTRAULA

Achalpur Chaudhri	Ram Lila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	1,000
Allipur	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	2,000
Balua Masmule	Kartika Ashnan	Kartiki Purnima	1,000
Banjaria	Ram Vivah	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 5	400
Barhya Farid Khan	Ketri Teej	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 3	1,000
Barhya Farid Khan	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	1,000
Bethiuya	Ram Vivah	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 5	600
Bhawazidpur	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	1,000
Bhitauna	Ram Vivah	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 5	1,000
Budhipur	Kartika Ashnan	Kartiki Purnima	1,000
Chanradip	" "	" "	2,000
Chhapia	" "	" "	1,500
Dari Chaura	Ram Lila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	1,000
Daulatpur Muafi	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	1,000
Dinkarpur	Nehan Dwitiya	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 2	1,000
Etaee Rampur	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	500
Gandas Buzurg	Kartika Ashnan	Kartiki Purnima	1,000
Gurgaon	Nehan Maghi	January 14	4,000
Karauhan	Ketri Teej	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 3	5,000
Karauhan	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	5,000
Khamariya	Nehan Dwitiya	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 2	400
Kot Khas	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	2,000
Mankapur	Kartika Ashnan	Kartiki Purnima	5,000
Narainpur	" "	" "	1,000
Nayanagar	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	1,000
Nayanagar	Ketri Teej	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 3	1,000
Nirjanpur	Nehan Dwitiya	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 2	500
Pekrhi Bhuwar	Kartika Ashnan	Kartika Purnima	1,000
Patjiya Buzurg	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	1,000
Piora Ram	Ram Vivah	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 5	900
Rampur Grant	Kartika Ashnan	Kartika Purnima	1,000
Rampur Grant	Ram Vivah	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 5	2,000
Sahderiya	Ram Lila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	1,000
Sahderiya	Ram Vivah	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 5	400
Utraula N.A.	Ram Lila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	10,000
Utraula N.A.	Ram Vivah	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 2	10,000
Utraula N.A.	Ketri Teej	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 3	1,000
Utraula N.A.	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	5,000
Tejpur	Sivaratri	" "	1,500

1	2	3	4
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## TAHSIL GONDA

Basti	Meeryah Baba	Moharram 7	500
Beerpur (Belpur)	Kartika Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	200
Bhadwal	Yam Dwitiya	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 2	700
Jankinagar	Dukh Haran Nath	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 3	1,000
Kanji Dwer	Jugeshar Nath	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 3	600
Khaira	Khaira Devi	Every Monday	600
Kusmighat	Yama Dwitiya	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 2	300
Mahadeo	Barkhandi Nath	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 3	800
Mahadeo	Yama Dwitiya	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 2	400
Mandey	"	"	700
Pacharan	Paccran Nath "Pirithi Nath	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 3	2,000
Pure Tendua	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	400
Rajgarhainpur	"	"	400
Ramnagar Tarhar	Yama Dvitiya	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 2	1,000
Rerua	Sidh Beer-ka-mela	Asadha, <i>sukla</i> 15	1,000
Rudragarh Naushi	Yama Dwitiya	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 2	800
Singhapur	Ishwarnand Kuti	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	2,000
Sonapur	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	1,000
Subhag pur	Chamar Muni	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	1,000
Tirre Manorma	Manorama	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	4,000

## TAHSIL TARABGANJ

Ashokpur	Bala Peer Rauza	First Sunday of Jyaistha	2,000
Bhat Babhpuri	Baleshwar Nath	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 3	5,000
Katra Shah Bazar	Kartiki Ashnan	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	1,000
Lakar Mandi	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	50,000
Lakar Mandi	Sawan Jhula	Shravana, <i>sukla</i> 1-15	40,000
Lakar Mandi	Kartika Ashnan	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	50,000
Mukundpur	Uttary Bhawani	Asadha, <i>sukla</i> 15	3,000
Nawabganj (Patparganj)	Kartika Ashnan	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	2,000
Paska	Sangam Ashnan	Pausa	50,000
Sakraura	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	3,000

## CHAPTER IV

### AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

#### Land Reclamation and Utilisation

The district had a geographical area of 7,33,100 ha. in 1971, of which 5,21,911 ha. was utilised for agricultural purposes. The statement below compares the area of land utilisation in the district during the last three decades :

Utilisation purposes	Area in hectares		
	1951	1961	1971
Total geographical area	7,35,665	7,53,036	7,33,100
Area under forest	42,121	36,084	72,380
Uncultivated area	68,730	63,788	1,01,212
Other uncultivated area	1,06,778	59,553	33,735
Current fallows	23,414	35,352	16,577
Total cultivated area	6,79,782	7,35,849	7,23,725
Net cultivated area	4,97,704	5,18,258	5,21,911
Area cropped more than once	1,85,070	2,17,594	2,01,814

#### Cultivated Area

There are no records extant to show the amount of cultivation at annexation. It is, however, known that the increase was very rapid during the first few years of British rule. The earliest statistics are those of the first regular Settlement in 1859. It was then ascertained that 4,01,275 ha. or 61 per cent of the whole area, excluding the forest was cultivated. The proportion varied greatly in different part. It was highest in Balrampur pargana with 73 per cent, followed by Gonda tahsil with 64 per cent, and lowest in Nawabganj, Burhapara and Mankapur, the last having but 43 per cent of cultivation. At the revision of 1875 a slight increase was recorded, the total being 4,33,080 ha. or 61.5 per cent. Regular annual returns were not prepared till 1885, and it was then found that 4,69,753 ha. were under the plough. There was an unaccountable drop in the following year, but the average from 1885 to 1894 was no less than 4,57,684 ha. the highest figure being reached in the last year, when it amounted to 4,77,875 ha. or 70 per cent. From that time a decline set in by reason of a succession of bad seasons, floods and saturation being followed by drought, till in 1897 cultivation had fallen to 4,21,181 ha. or less than the total at the Settlement. In the following year there was slight advance in the area under plough. During the decade ending in 1904 the average cultivation was 4,47,157 ha. while in 1904 it was 4,61,685 ha. or over 67 per cent of the whole district excluding the reserved forests. The proportion was highest in the Utraula tahsil and lowest in the Tarabganj.

The statement below shows the decennial figures of cultivated area from 1901 to 1971 :

Year	Cultivated area (ha.)
1901	4,57,425
1911	4,87,544
1921	4,87,995
1931	4,66,389
1941	4,80,661
1951	4,97,704
1961	5,16,258
1971	5,21,911

### Double Cropped Area

One of the chief features of this district is the prevalence of the practice of double-cropping, which illustrates not only the capacity of the land but also the ease with which the soil is tilled. It is common throughout the north of Avadh specially in rice tracts, where gram is sown in the cold weather; but in no other neighbouring district, it is carried to such an extent as in Gonda. At the first regular Settlement the *dofasli* (double-cropped) area was 1,28,528 ha. or nearly 30 per cent of the cultivation. From 1894 to 1903 the average was 1,85,935 ha. or over 41 per cent of the area cultivated, while in 1904 it had risen to 2,28,566 ha., more than 49 per cent of the land cultivated being sown twice in the year. The practice was most common in the Tarabganj tahsil too, where the proportion was over 60 per cent. In the tahsil of Gonda the double-cropped area in 1904 was 52 per cent while in Utraula it was 42 per cent. In 1961 the area sown more than once was 2,17,594 ha. which decreased to 2,01,814 ha. in 1970-71.

### Culturable Area

In 1901, the culturable area, excluding the current fallows, amounted to 2,14,892 ha. In 1911 the area decreased to 1,66,929 ha while in 1921 it further decreased to 1,65,341 ha. The following statement gives the decennial figures of culturable area from 1931 to 1971 :

Year	Culturable area excluding current fallows (ha.)
1931	1,65,480
1941	1,60,077
1951	1,48,900
1961	1,35,637
1971	1,06,115

**Current Fallows**—In 1901, the total current fallows land in the district was 24,473 ha. In the year 1911 it increased to 28,912 ha. The trend was steadily maintained till 1931, the figures for decade ending 1921 being 31,259 ha., 1931 being 33,014 ha. in 1941, however, it decreased to 25,754 ha. In 1951 it further decreased to 23,414 ha. but in 1961 it increased to 35,352 ha. which figure dwindled to 16,577 ha. in 1971.

### Land not Available for Cultivation

The land under this head consists chiefly of sterile *usar* plains and the sandy tracts broken by ravines along the banks of rivers. Other areas include those occupied by sites, roads, buildings, water and that under other non-agricultural uses.

The areas not available for cultivation according to census years since 1931 to 1961 and in 1976 are given in the statement that follows :

Classification of uncultivated land	Area in ha.				
	1931	1941	1951	1961	1976
Under water	42,030	40,184	38,808	33,786	38,860
Under buildings and roads	24,506	25,938	26,226	25,762	27,934
Under non-agricultural uses	4,440	4,121	3,701	4,239	5,392
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,976</b>	<b>70,243</b>	<b>68,734</b>	<b>63,787</b>	<b>71,986</b>

### LAND RECLAMATION

Land development through soil conservation measures is vital for successful agriculture. Wind and rain water are the main agents of soil erosion accentuated by deforestation and excessive grazing. The large number of rivers and nullahs in the district cause and help in soil erosion and an area of about 52,000 hectares is thus affected. The most affected localities are in the catchment of rivers Rapti, Kuwano, Manwar, Bushuhi and Terhi; the area falling in blocks Jhaujhari, Tarabganj, Paraspur, Katra, Mankapur, Mujahana, Intjathoke, Balrampur, Sridutganj, Goindas Buzurg, Chhapiya and Babhanjo. Of the tahsils the most affected are Gonda and Balrampur.

### Soil Conservation

The soil conservation work was actually started is 1967-68 and was confined to contour bunding till 1973-74. After that the pattern of soil conservation work has been changed. In 1976-77 an area of 799 ha. was treated by levelling and an area of 214 ha. was treated by bunding.



## IRRIGATION

The district is well provided with means of irrigation but the proportion of irrigated to cultivated land is somewhat low as compared with that of other parts of Avadh. The reason of this lies in the peculiar configuration of the district. In the lowlying terai tract to the north irrigation is seldom practised or required owing to the natural moisture in the soil and the small depth below the surface at which water is found. In the *tarhar* to the south too the soil is sufficiently moist to obviate the need of artificial watering. The ordinary conditions only prevail in the *uparhar* or central table land, and in this tract the available means cannot be said to scanty owing to the presence of numerous tanks and *jhils* and the ease with which wells can be constructed. At the first regular Settlement the total irrigated area was 82,565 ha. or only 19 per cent of the cultivated area. There were great variations in the proportion in different parganas. It was highest in Mankapur and Babhnipair, reaching 50 and 45 per cent respectively, which in Gonda it was 34 and in Sadullahnagar 32 per cent. On the other hand there was absolutely none in Tulsipur and only six per cent in Balrampur. In the *tarhar* parganas the average was 24 per cent but in Guwarich, which contains no upland, it was only 12 per cent. At the revision of 1875 the irrigated area slightly increased, but only in proportion to the cultivation. From 1886 to 1893 the average irrigated area was 1,01,469 ha. or nearly 22 per cent of the land under the plough; and from 1894 to 1903 there was slight decrease, the total average being 94,865 ha. and the proportion to cultivation 21.2 per cent. In the late years there was a noticeable increase, for from 1901 to 1904 the average was 1,15,186 ha. and in 1904 1,29,752 ha. was irrigated, a figure higher than any recorded previously. In 1911 the total irrigated area amounted to 90,743 ha. which increased to 1,24,477 ha. in 1921. In 1931 it decreased to 1,12,660 ha. but in 1941 it increased to 1,31,760 ha. In 1951 it decreased to 1,27,533 ha.

The irrigation potential of the district has kept on mounting. In the year 1955-56 the irrigated area was 1,39,704 ha. In 1970-71, the gross irrigated area was 1,48,423 ha.

The following statement shows the extent of area (in hectares) irrigated from different sources in 1961-62, 1971-72 and 1976-77 :

Year	Wells	Tube-wells	Canals	Tanks, lakes, etc.	Reservoirs	Other sources
1961-62	71,776	11,445	179	33,426	170	6,779
1971-72	47,464	66,736	219	18,598	-	4,574
1976-77	49,615	49,698	8,098	29,670	-	12,509

## MEANS OF IRRIGATION

The means of irrigation consist of canals, lift irrigation, wells tube-wells, tanks and lakes besides minor irrigation works. A brief account of different means of irrigation follows :

**Canals**—Irrigation by canals is nominal. Only Balrampur tahsil is having such irrigation facilities. In 1976-77 the area irrigated by canals was 8,098 hectares. In this district small canals are taken out from the reservoirs built on the nullahs in the trans-Rapti area. An idea may be had regarding the usefulness of different canal systems from the following data :

Name of canal system	Year when started	Length of the system (in km.)	Total cost of the system (in Rs)	Area irrigated (in ha.)	Year
Ganeshpur canal system	1943-44	3.0	2,19,210	591	1977
Majhgawan canal system	1953-54	3.0	8,10,184	832	"
Baghel Khand canal system	1953-54	3.2	5,50,000	617	"
Girgitahri canal system	1954-55	4.8	58,44,000	2,171	"
Khairan canal system	1955-56	3.0	12,20,000	842	"
Kohargaddi canal system	1933-34	3.0	3,12,845	2,069	"
Bhagwanpur canal system	1960-61	4.4	39,31,000	1,193	"

## Lift Irrigation

To improve the old system of lifting water from rivers and streams flowing in the district in deep channels between high banks with the help of *dhenkli* or lever; or where the water level was too deep and lifting was being done with the help of bullocks, mechanised lift irrigation schemes known as pump canal schemes were started. The following statement shows some details about the pump canals in district :

Name of pump canal	Capacity (in cusecs)
Saideeh	7.5
Hirday Nagar	5.0
Mirzapur	7.5
Sisai	2.5
Katra Shanker Nagar	2.5
Rajghat	5.0

**Wells**—The wells which form an important source of irrigation are in most cases half masonry. They predominate all parts of the Tarabganj tahsil, where the water is so near the surface that brick walls are unnecessary. In the uplands the depth is seldom more than 6 metres and is generally much less. Masonry wells are comparatively rare, and the majority are to be found in the Gonda and Mankapur parganas. At the first regular Settlement there were 11,100 wells in the district and since then their number has gradually increased which in 1955-56 was 26,325. Most of them were built, if not entirely by the landlords, at any rate with their assistance. Half masonry wells are easily and cheaply made and are fairly efficient but their irrigating capacity does not exceed two or three ha. The water is raised as a rule by *dhenkli* or lever, and is distributed by means of a long wooden spoon; in places where the water level is too deep, bullocks are employed.

**Tube-wells**—The soil of the district and the water-level is suitable for drilling of tube-wells. Before the establishment of the tube-wells division (in Bahraich), there were some private tube-wells with zamindars. In 1976-77 the total number of the State tube-well was 256, and area irrigated by them was 49,698 hectares.

### Tanks and Lakes

The tanks are generally natural depressions in the shape of large, shallow jhils with well defined edges. Artificial tanks are common but rarely used for irrigation. The high mud banks which enclose them hinder the extraction of water. In irrigating from tanks the most common system employed is to scoop out a hollow at its edge and raise water from this point in large baskets slung on ropes by men standing at each side of the outlet, to a height above the surrounding area from which it flows along inclined channels to the fields. In the *tarhar* the jhils are for the most part long, narrow depressions, along which the surplus water drains slowly into the rivers. These are extensively used for irrigation at the beginning of the cold weather but have the disadvantage of being too shallow to restrain their waters in years of abnormal rainfall and may keep the fields on their banks submerged till it is too late to sow the spring crops.

The rivers and streams are but sparingly used for the purpose of irrigation, as generally the water is at too great a depth below the cultivated fields.

### Minor Irrigation Works

Minor irrigation works are the important sources of irrigation in the district. The statement below shows their details during various Five-year Plan periods :

Name of scheme	First-Five year Plan	Second Five-year Plan	Third Five-year Plan	Fourth Five-year Plan	Fifth Five-year Plan (up to December, 1977)
Wells for irrigation (No.)	388	515	8,773	4,334	1,353
Rahat (No.)	5	21	543	147	49
Pumping sets (No.)	3	148	269	4,219	5,595
Private tube-wells (No.)	115	696	1,148	8,047	5,974

### Water Potential and Future Possibilities of Irrigation

The soil is fertile in general and pressure on land is high due to high density of population in most of the areas. Further irrigation facilities will provide opportunities for multiple cropping and adoption of high-yielding varieties and other programmes oriented towards the adoption of improved agricultural practices.

In most parts of the district minor irrigation works have found favour with the small farmers. More tube-wells are likely to come up on the availability of power at cheap rates.

For expansion of irrigation facilities canals and channels can be extended in length and their numbers increased, the number of masonry wells can be greatly increased and old and disused ones can be rebored. Under Five-year Plans attempts have been made to translate into action the various schemes to utilize the irrigation potential of the district.

The following statement shows new schemes of irrigation, the cost and the area to be benefited from them :

Name of scheme	Commanded area (in hectares)	Proposed area (in hectares)	Cost (in crore Rs)
Chittaurgarh reservoir	22,600	13,600	6.12
Navalgarh reservoir	5,600	3,400	1.40
Chittaiya reservoir	5,000	2,400	1.40
Pakri reservoir	4,400	1,760	1.80
Jal Jalva reservoir	1,740	535	0.55
Paranpur reservoir	5,705	2,281	2.77
Bankatwa reservoir	1,758	880	1.10
Saryu canal project	4,30,000	3,20,000	271.45

The Saryu canal project will provide irrigation to other district also.

## AGRICULTURE

### Soils and Crops

The district, for the purpose of soil classification can be divided into three parts namely terai *tarhar* and *uparhar*. The northern part is the terai which includes the whole of the pargana of Tulsipur, the greater part of that of Balrampur and the northern edge of that of Utraula. As in all the submontane tracts, it lies low water is very near the surface and floods are frequent. The soil is a heavy clay suited for the growth of the fine rice for which Tulsipur has long been famous.

The *uparhar*, central upland plain runs from north-west to south-east a few kilometre north of Terhi river and passing a short distance to the south of the town of Gonda. Generally speaking, the soil is the best in the eastern parganas of Utraula and Burhapara, while to the west the quality declines.

In the *tarhar* the soil is at places a light and porous loam, especially along the Terhi, degenerating into almost pure sand. There is practically no clay in the *tarhar*, and the sandy soils, though light and weak, have not the worse defects of *bhur* found in other parts of Avadh.

The soils of the district are characterised by the presence of a dark coloured organic matter. The calcareous soils of the district are similar to alluvial soils. As regards the fertility the district falls in the medium category.

Owing to the small difference between the various kind of soils and the gradual nature of the transition from clay to loam and from loam to sand, the demarcation of the soil areas at regular Settlements was effected on a conventional classification. As in most of the Avadh districts soils may be classified in three categories depending on their distance from their homestead and the consequent amount of manure and attention received by each. The highly manured zone near the village site is known as *goind*, while the middle zone is known as *manjhar* and the outlying fields as *palo*.

Agricultural conditions are somewhat varying in the three different soil tracts of the district. Rainfall is heavy in the 'terai' tract and there is a belt of rich clay soil which is suited for the cultivation of paddy. The area is known as "Dhan ki Khan" in popular language which means the most productive land for paddy of which several varieties including the famous varieties namely *kalanamak* and *kalazira* are shown in the area.

The *uparhar* is the upland predominated by *dumat* soil. Roughly 45 per cent of the area of the district falls in this tract. It is thickly populated, and pressure on land is very high. Means of irrigation are mainly lakes, tanks, well and tube-wells. A wide range of crops such as wheat, gram, barley, peas, potato,

mustard in the Rabi and paddy sugarcane, jowar and bajra in the Kharif can be found in this region which has good scope for further development of agriculture by means of minor irrigation projects especially by sinking of tube-wells and their energisation.

The *tarhar* consisting of about 25 per cent of the area of the district is frequently affected by the floods. Water level is near the surface but the soil is sandy. Jowar is the most important crop grown in this area. Melons, Water-melons, sweet potato, etc. are typical agricultural products of the low lying area of *arhar*. Cultivation of sugar-cane, wheat, gram, *arhar* and paddy is gaining importance.

### Major and Subsidiary Crops

There are the three harvests called by the usual names, Rabi, Kharif and Zaid-save that the late kharif crops are often classed by themselves as belonging to the *henwat* or *agahmi* harvest, the latter name being derived from the month in which the late rice is reaped. The relative areas occupied by the (two) Rabi and Kharif harvests differ in different parts of the district owing to the nature of the soil. In the terai the kharif crops predominate, as rice is the chief staple; further south in the *uparhar* wheat is the most important; and in the *tarhar* reliance is to a large extent placed on the outturn, of the early kharif, owing to the large area under maize.

The Zaid or intermediate harvest is of little importance in this district. It consists of melons, water-melons and sweet potato etc. It covered only 419 hectares in 1970-71. The Kharif crops are sown in Asadha-Sravana (June-July) and reaped in Kartika-Agrahanya-Pausa (October-November-December). The preparations for the Rabi sowing commence after the cessation of the rains and the crops are sown in Kartika-Agrahanya. The Rabi crops are harvested from the month of Chaitra (approximately March) up to Jyestha (approximately May). There has been an appreciable extension of the multiple cropped area, it being about 41 per cent of the net area sown. Thus, the district is marked by intensive use of land resources for the purpose of cultivation.

An idea may be had regarding the relative figures of the area covered by the Kharif, Rabi multiple crops in the district from the following data :

Year	Area under Kharif (hectares)	Area under Rabi (hectares)	Area under multi- ple crops (ha.)
1951-52	4,12,652	2,45,779	1,60,159
1961-62	4,41,965	3,02,306	2,19,567
1971-72	4,27,816	2,95,490	2,01,814
1976-77	4,14,699	2,86,336	1,75,500

**Kharif**—The principal kharif crop of the district is paddy covering about one third of the gross cropped area of the district. In the *tarai* tract and in the northern portion of the *uparhar* the paddy is known as *jarhan* (transplanted), a variety much more valuable than the early paddy. Early paddy is sown in July and reaped in September, while *jarhan* follows two months later, the transplantation taking place, in August. A fine variety of rice known as *kalanamak* is very famous. The district stood first in the whole Faizabad Division in respect of area under paddy as also for the total produce in 1971-72. The increase in the area under paddy has been remarkable. In 1951-52 it was 2,12,861 hectares. It rose to 2,40,489 hectares in 1961-62 and it further increased to 2,49,205 hectares in 1971-72. In 1976-77 the area covered by paddy was 2,53,133 ha.

The next Kharif crop in order of importance is the maize. It occupies the third position, second being wheat, in district so far as the area sown is concerned and covers about 14 per cent of the gross cropped area. This crop has long been popular in the district as also in the adjoining districts of Basti and Gorakhpur. The light and porous soil of the *tarhar* is more suited for maize.

Among the inferior food-grains mention may be made of *kodon*, a small millet which grows in light unirrigated soil and is extensively consumed by the poorer classes. The area under *kodon* varies from tahsil to tahsil, but it is very extensively grown in the tahsil of Gonda in combination with *arhar*. It is, however, gradually declining and this is generally a favourable sign, as it is being supplanted by more valuable staples. In 1961 the area under it was 36,757 ha. which decreased to 34,215 ha. in 1971-72.

Other food crops of kharif include jowar, bajra and *mandua*. Among the pulses in this season *arhar*, *moong*, *urd* and *moth* are notable but the area occupied by these crops is never large. The following statement gives some relevant details of the main Kharif cereals in the district in 1972-73.

Crop	Area sown (hectares)	Total Production (in m. tonnes)	Average yield per hectare in district (quintals)	Average yield per hectare in State (quintals)
Rice	2,46,892	1,59,794	6.47	7.48
Maize	1,02,016	97,070	9.52	7.34
Bajra	1,038	1,130	10.88	6.63
Jowar	1,037	339	8.09	7.19
Urd	3,351	1,448	—	3.60
Moong				
Moth				

**Rabi**—In Rabi crops wheat takes the first place in the district. So far as area is concerned it is second in importance covering as it does about 20 per cent of the gross cropped area.

Significant progress has been made in cultivation of high yielding and improved varieties of wheat. The proportion is highest in the loam tract of *uparhar*. It is sown alone and also in combination with barley and gram. The practice of sowing it as a mixed crop is prevalent throughout Tarabganj tahsil and also in the northern parganas of Balrampur and Tulsipur. Wheat requires good soil, careful tillage and an assured supply of water. As the crop is an expensive one and is grown mainly for export, the proportion of the wheat area to the land cropped is a fair index of the relative prosperity of the district in any given period.

Gram is second in importance of all Rabi crops and is sown on a fairly wide scale all over the district. It occupies an area only exceeded by wheat and is commonly mixed with barley or wheat. In 1976-77 it occupied an area of 37,097 ha. It has been known to flourish in all types of soils and the district is reckoned as leading producer of gram in the Faizabad Division.

Formerly barley used to have a considerable area under it, averaging 49,480 ha. or 6.74 per cent of the Rabi harvest. Later on there was a marked decline in its cultivation, the staple yielding place to crops with better return. Barley is sown as a second crop after maize. It is seldom sown alone and is generally mixed with wheat or gram or both.

Peas are a somewhat similar crop (like gram) and are also sown as a rule in succession to maize or some other Kharif staple. They do best in the lighter soils, and specially in the *tarhar* tract.

The other Rabi crops call for no special comment. The pulse known as *masur* is somewhat extensively grown, especially in the Balrampur pargana, its cultivation being very similar to that of gram. There is also a fair area under potatoes, chiefly in the tahsil of Gonda, Balrampur and Utraula but the other garden cultivation is generally insignificant.

The following statement gives some relevant particulars regarding the main Rabi cereals produced in the district in 1972-73:

Crops	Area sown (in hectare)	Total Production (in m. tonnes)	Average yield per hectare in district (quintals)	Average yield per hectare in district (quintals)
Wheat	1,46,591	1,18,274	8.07	12.00
Gram	44,650	34,167	7.65	7.52
Barley	25,676	16,203	6.31	10.15
Pea	25,743	8,327	3.23	6.20
<i>Masur</i>	14,829	8,610	5.81	6.23



## Non-food Crops

Oil seeds like linseed, *til* and mustard, sugar-cane, tobacco, *pan* (betel leaf), vegetables are the chief non-food crops. The district occupies a leading position for the cultivation of sugar-cane and second best in respect of oil seeds in the whole of Faizabad Division.

The following statement gives some relevant details of the main non-food crops in 1972—73 :

Crops	Area sown (hectares)	Total production in m. tonnes
All types of oil-seeds	15,335	3,523
Sugar-cane	27,445	10,47,535
Potato	2,993	28,425
Jute	651	5,750

## Rotation of Crops

The most common rotations are paddy-wheat, maize-wheat, maize-potato-vegetables, groundnut-wheat-barley and lahi-sugar-cane.

## Mixed Cultivation

The main mixed crops of district are *arhar*, *jowar*, *urd*, *moong*, *arhar*, *til*, *sawan*, gram, pea, wheat, mustard etc. The practice of growing more than one crop in a field at the same time gives additional harvests besides maintaining its fertility. Usually the pests, diseases and adverse weather conditions do not affect all the crops equally.

## Horticulture

The district has a 5 hectares government nursery of fruit plants—such as guava, *ber*, *aonla*, pomegranate, pear, pineapple, papaya, lemon etc. Besides the department also provides farmers with improved varieties of vegetable seeds for multiplication. In 1977-78 1,87,751 fruits plants, 3,35,513 ornamental and timber saplings besides 24,30,000 vegetables seedlings were distributed through different government sources. About 79 quintals of vegetables seeds were also distributed in that year.

## Progress of Scientific Agriculture

Prior to Independence the farmers of the district, as elsewhere in the State, followed age old traditional method of

cultivation. Soon after, however, it was felt that the old methods of cultivation were outmoded and unable to cope with the ever-increasing demand for food-grains. Improvement in the pattern and techniques of cultivation was therefore, adopted and due emphasis laid on intensive cultivation in Five-year Plans.

Improved and scientific methods of growing various crops such as wheat, barley and gram were popularised. The sixties of this century saw the beginning of 'green revolution' in the country under which intensive cultivation and sowing of seeds of high yielding variety was actively encouraged. The pioneering work being done by the government agricultural farms in the district and various other agencies of the Central and State Governments, the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, agricultural Colleges, Universities and research centres in the country to reorient the farmer for adopting better and scientific methods of agriculture has helped in putting the cultivation on a sound footing and boosting the yield considerably. Kharif, Rabi and Zaid campaigns are organised in the shape of package programme for paddy during Kharif and wheat in Rabi.

Besides making arrangements for the supply of improved seeds, scientific implements, fertilizers, manures and extending improved agricultural practices to the agricultural masses, the agriculture department also gives technical advice and guidance to the cultivators on agricultural problems. As a result of the aforesaid measures and introduction of improved varieties of seeds the use of chemical fertilizers has considerably increased. An idea may be had regarding the plant protection work and distribution of fertilizers in the district in 1976-77 from the following statement :

Item	Achievment
Distribution of fertilizers	836 tonnes
Area under plant protection	5,61,629 hectares
Loan advanced	Rs 1, 58, 56, 256
Number of wells constructed	252
Quantity of seeds of food grains distributed	1,578 quintals
Quantity of seeds of vegetables	79 quintals
Number of implements distributed	6,695

### Agricultural Implements and Machines

The old instruments like *hansiya* or sickle, *khurpa* or hoe, etc. have been replaced to a large extent, by modern implements. The implements used in the district are tractors, power threshers, bullock drawn thresher, winnowing fans, mould wood plough, seed drill and cultivators. The statement below shows the number of agricultural implements and machines distributed in 1976-77 :

Name of implements	Number
Tractors	517
Power threshers	292
Bullock-drawn threshers	36
Winnowers	45
Cultivators	220
Soil turning ploughs	1,906
Seed drills	3
Others	3,676

### Seed Supply

Seeds are supplied through the seeds stores maintained by the agriculture and the co-operative departments and private dealers. In 1978, 51 seed stores of agriculture department and 30 of co-operative department were functioning in the district. In all nearly 5,541 quintals of Kharif and rabi seeds were distributed by the two departments in 1976-77, the share of the co-operative seed stores being 3,963 quintals.

The work of seed multiplication is carried on in government farms. The standard seeds are distributed among the farmers who, in turn raise and multiply it and make it available to other cultivators through barter system. Efforts are made that cultivators get new seeds after every three years.

The district is saturated with high-yielding varieties of various seeds. The percentage of wheat is 84, of paddy 64, of maize 62 and that of barley is 70.

### Soil Nutrients

The traditional manures are cattle dung, farm refuse and stable litter. The usefulness of green manure crops such as *lobia*, *dhaincha*, *sanai* and *moong* which provide nitrogenous matter to the soil and increase its fertility is being increasingly realised by the cultivators. Nearly 100 quintals of seeds of green manure crops were supplied to the farmers in 1976-77.

The use of chemical fertilizers of the nitrogenous, phosphatic and potassic groups is steadily increasing. Fertilizers are supplied by agriculture, co-operative cane departments and private distributors. There is considerable demand for urea although a fair quantity of containing potash is also used. Total quantity of fertilizers supplied by the government co-operative institutions and private agencies to the farmers in the district was 836 tonnes.

## Government Agriculture Farms

In 1976-77 there were six government agriculture farms in the district one each at Kastua, Laxmanpur, Kalyanpur, Kataha, Domokalpi and Pach Perwa. These farms were equipped with modern scientific agricultural implements such as tractors, power-threshers and cultivators, etc. Average yield of paddy in these farms was between 5 to 10.50 quintals per acre, of wheat between 6 to 12.63 quintals and that of barley between 5 to 11 quintals per hectares.

## Agricultural Diseases and Pests

The insect pests eat the growing plants stealthily and the *gundhi* bug (or simple rice bug) is the greatest enemy of paddy. It is slender green insect which sucks the sap of the developing ears of the paddy causing them to turn white. Caterpillars do a great deal of harm by eating the leaves of growing plants or boring into the unripe seed pods and eating up the seeds. Those attacking the seed pods of gram, peas and *arhar* are green in colour and about an inch in length. Their ravages are not so obvious while the crop is standing but when the pods are opened the seed may be found to be missing. Among insect pests, harming vegetable and fruit plants, plant-lice and mealy bugs are the most common. Melon fruit flies cause much damage to melons, cucumber and pumpkins. Fruit-flies and mango hoppers are the foes of fruit trees and termite and sugar-cane borers are enemies of sugar-cane.

The plant disease known as *jhulsa* and *jhoka* affects paddy. Damage by birds and stray cattle is also not inconsiderable and driving them away is the only method adopted for saving the crops.

The scientific method for control of pests and diseases adopted in the district are dusting with B. H. C. and sulphur, spraying with D. D. T., etc. In 1976-77 the total area covered by plant protection programme was 5,61,529 hectares which included 2,02,096 hectares protected from rats and 76,546 hectares from other pests.

There are also various leafy growths and weeds which do harm to the crops. These are usually overcome by systematic and timely intercutting and deep ploughing. The plant protection staff posted in the district gives free advice to the cultivators in plant protection measures for raising healthy crops including those of fruits and vegetables. They also provide insecticides, spraying and dusting machines and services of trained staff at moderate charges.

## ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

### Area Under Fodder Crops

There are good grazing grounds near the Tikri forest, while the *manjha* lands of the Ghaghra also provide pastures of some-wheat inferior quality. In 1976-77 fodder crops—M. P. Chari, lobia, jowar, maize and bajra—covered an area of 5,267 ha.

## Dairy Farming

A regular cattle census was taken in August, 1899, when there were 4,04,203 bulls and bullocks, 2,97,441 cows, 10,362 male buffaloes and 92,722 cow buffaloes besides 3,58,021 young stock in the district. A second census was taken in 1904 and it was then ascertained that the number of bulls and bullocks had risen to 4,44,720, of cows to 3,29,552 of male buffaloes to 10,587 and of cow buffaloes to 97,515 but, on the other hand young stock showed a decline, the total being 3,27,101.

In 1961, the number of bulls was 6,55,682 and that of cows 3,89,164. They were kept for breeding and milk production. The large number of cows and cow buffaloes shows both that Gonda has been a breeding district and also that it has a large *ghi* industry.

According to live-stock census of 1972 there were 5,73,146 bulls and bullocks and 3,06,984 cows.

The number of buffaloes in the district has always been lower than that of the cows and bulls. At the live-stock census of 1972 male buffaloes numbered 23,297 and cow buffaloes 1,50,495. The small number of male buffaloes may be ascribed to disinclination of certain persons, to use these animals in the plough. On the other hand the cow buffaloes are bred for its milk and *ghi*.

**Sheeps and Goats**—Sheeps and goats are a bundant in all parts of the district, but both are of very small breeds. Goats are primarily kept for meat, sheep for penning on the land, and also for their wool.

In 1961, the sheep numbered 40,803 and goats 1,37,368. In 1972 their number rose to 43,034 and 1,44,823 respectively.

For improving the local breed of sheep one sheep and wool extension centre is functioning at Belsar where 50 stud rams are operating. These rams are distributed to the sheep breeders during mating season.

To improve the local breed of goats of the district 15 buck centres with two bucks each are maintained for breeding purposes. There are Barberi and Jamunapari breeds of buck also and these are issued to private breeders.

## Poultry Farming

Poultry farming as an subsidiary occupation is gaining popularity in the district. According to the live-stock census of 1972 the poultry numbered 81,087.

There is a government poultry farm with 400 leghorn birds in the Gonda city. There are available for distribution from a day old to two months old chicks.

The following statement shows the number of improved birds distributed for the development of poultry farming in the district :

Year	Number
1974-75	21,732
1975-76	22,822
1976-77	27,862

An amount of Rs 2,30,140 was given as loan for the development of poultry by the co-operative department in 1976-77.

### Fisheries

The rivers and lakes of the district abound with fish of many varieties. Practically the various species met with are the same as those found elsewhere in Avadh. The common species are *rohu* (*Labeo rohita*), *bhakur* (*catla catla*), *nain* (*cirrhina mrigala*), *parhin* (*wallagonia attu*), *tengan* (*Mystus seenghala*) and *mahseer* (*Barbus* spp.). The methods of fishing do not materially differ from those practised in the surrounding districts. They are caught with the net, rod and line, various forms of wicker baskets and traps, and also with the *pachhi* or five-pronged spear. Fish find a ready sale in the local markets and are used as food by a good number of people. The Tharus are expert fishermen, while in the south Castes chiefly engaged in fishing are Kahars, Pasis, Mallahs and Kewats.

The main activities of the fisheries department are development and exploitation of reservoirs for pisciculture and supply of fingerlings to private breeders and Gaon Samaj under the 'small water scheme and applied nutrition programme'.

In 1976-77 there were five fish farms and nurseries Munderwa Nursery, Puretewari Fish Farm, Agra Tank, Parbati Reservoir and Tulsipur Nursery. More than 3,00,000 fingerlings were taken out from these farms and utilised either for stocking the departmental waters or sale to the private pisciculturists, at the rate of Rs 40 per thousand. Between 1959 to 1976 eight co-operative societies of fisheries were established in the district. These are located at Kodar Utraula, Karnailganj, Paraspur and Pachperwa.

### Development of Live-Stock

The development of agriculture is co-related with the development of live-stock as the latter provides the required motive power for various agricultural operations besides providing organic manure and milk. Further the bullocks still play an important role as a draught animal for pulling carts which are as yet the chief means of rural transport.

With the beginning of First Five-year Plan due importance was attached to cattle development. Before Independence the veterinary hospitals were primarily concerned with the treatment of diseased animals and vaccination only.

The policy of animal husbandry department was changed and the emphasis began to be laid on animal husbandry instead of control of diseases. Under this scheme veterinary department and animal husbandry development were merged and a post, of district live-stock officer was created *Taqavi* is distributed for purchase of improved animals to improve the breed. In 1976-77 an amount of Rs 5,800 was distributed as *taqavi* and three milch animals were purchased.

The statement below gives the number of cattle castrated and that provided with artificial insemination service from 1974-75 to 1976-77 :

Year	No. castrated	No. inseminated
1974-75	50,057	24,088
1975-76	38,827	24,168
1976-77	22,005	25,459

The co-operative department gave an amount of Rs.17,87,000 as loan for purchase of bullocks and carts and Rs. 22.12,000 for purchase of milch cattle.

### Cattle Fairs

The only cattle fair of any significance is the Devi Patan fair held at Tulsipur on the occasion of Navratri from Chaitra which lasts for about a month. In this fair pairs of bullocks, cows, buffaloes and horses are sold. Besides weekly cattle markets are held at Darwan Kanoongo and at Sarain Khas on Thursday at Forbisganj and kadipur on Tuesday, at Alipur on Saturday, and at Maddo Nankar and at Amaya Dewar on Sunday.

### ANIMAL DISEASES AND VETERINARY HOSPITALS

Like all the submontane tracts, the district is exposed from time to time to severe epidemics of cattle disease. The commonest forms of diseases prevalent in the district are rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, black-quarter and *hemorrhagic Septisemia*. *Anthrax* also appears from time to time. Rinderpest is always very common in Tulsipur, especially after the rains in October and November. The treatment usually advocated by villagers for foot-and-mouth disease is the application of lime to the feet, fomentation of the mouth and the surrounding parts with a hot decoction of the bark

of the *palas* or *dhak* tree and also occasionally to make the affected cattle stand in pools of muddy water. Fowl pox and ranikhet disease are common among the birds of the district. With the establishment of veterinary hospitals the rural folks have started realising the efficacy of modern methods of prevention and treatment of cattle diseases. For prevention of infectious diseases, mass vaccination of animals and birds is undertaken every year. The following statement shows the number of animals treated or vaccinated against various diseases in the district during the period from 1974-75 to 1976-77 :

Year	No. of animals treated	No. of animals vaccinated against various diseases
1974-75	1,40,924	3,81,182
1975-76	1,78,084	4,97,428
1976-77	1,20,011	2,35,265

In 1976-77 there were 29 veterinary hospitals and 36 stock-man centres functioning in the district in addition to 18 artificial insemination centres.

### Forestry

Due to heavy rainfall forests are abundant along the Nepal border. The chief trees in northern forests are the *sal* (*Shorea robusta*) *asna* (*Terminalia tomentosa*), *Khair* (*Acacia Catechu*), *Sissoo* (*Dalbergia Sissoo*) and (*dhau* (*nopeissus atifolia*)). The southern forests are almost exclusively of *sal* with patches of *asna* and *manua*. In 1976-77 the area covered by the forest was 7,33,100 hectares.

The main forest produce are gum, honey, hides and horns, flowers, fruits, bamboo, medicines, firewood and thatching grass, etc. Some more details are given under fauna in Chapter I (general) of this volume.

### State Assistance to Agriculture

By and large the bulk of the land holdings are not large and as such the farmers are generally not in a position to make much improvement on their lands or to purchase improved implements, seeds and chemical fertilizers etc. To enable them to adopt modern methods of cultivation the State Government gives assistance in the form of different types of loans. In 1976-77 a sum of Rs 1,58,56,256 was given as loan for the purpose by the agriculture department.

The co-operative department also gives financial assistance to the farmers. In 1976-77 the department advanced an amount of Rs 2,38,95,415 as short and medium term loans for agricultural purposes.



## NATURAL CALAMITIES

## Famines

The danger from drought is nothing as compared with the damage to be feared from floods in the district. The former can only affect the *uparhar*, and the risk is but small owing to the ease with which remedial measures can be taken, while the latter constantly threatens both the *tarhai* and the *tarhar* and a series of year of prolonged excess of rain may cause deterioration from which recovery will be but slow.

Owing to the general physical configuration of the district, Gonda has seldom suffered severely from famine. From time to time however, distress has been felt as the result of unfavourable seasons, and it would appear that in early years, at any rate, the calamity of famine was not unknown. The earliest famine of which any details are known is that of 1769. On this occasion the Faizabad division appears to have escaped though tradition relates that the famine was felt in Utraula at the time it was raging in Bengal. It is certain that the price of food grains rose to a great height both in this district and the neighbouring tracts, but this was due to the amount of grain exported rather than to any deficiency in the outturn.

In the great famine of 1784, however, the district, and especially the eastern portion, was severely affected. In Gonda tahsil the price of grain rose to a great height, while in Utraula the people were reduced to living on berries, the bark of trees and the seed of jungle grasses; the mortality from starvation was very great; large numbers were driven from their homes and it is alleged that children were actually sold. Even the poorest grains were unobtainable. The whole of pargana Utraula was thrown out of cultivation and bands of starving peasantry wandered about the land plundering any stock of grain which might have remained. The forests gained rapidly on the deserted village and became the haunt of roving Banjaras and Nagas. So great was the desolation that the tract did not recover for years. In 1817 there was again severe want of food-grains in the district owing to poor harvest and high prices. In 1829 and 1837 again the district faced hardship but on neither occasion the distress seems to have been very acute. No other famines occurred up to the annexation of Avadh. After that there had been several periods of high prices and scarcity but on few occasions had it been found necessary to adopt alleviative measures. The rainfall of 1864 was deficient, causing scarcity in the ensuing year, and that of 1868 was badly distributed and was followed by an entire absence of the customary winter rains. In 1873 the rainfall was again very scanty, throughout the whole district. This resulted in a famine of some intensity in 1874, which affected an area of 2,397 sq. km. and a population of 3,50,000. Price rose very high, and more than double average rate; the stock of corn was perhaps sufficient but there was no money wherewith to buy it in the hands of the poorer classes. It was found necessary to open relief works in Utraula and the north and employment was given to about 6,000 persons. The total number of persons thus

relieved from December till the Rabi harvest and after was 35,93,681, counted by dailly units ; while in addition 29,871 received gratuitous relief to the various Government poor-houses and from the Maharaj of Balrampur.

The district was again visited by a famine in 1877 owing to the failure of the rains and the high prices resulting from the scarcity prevailing in all parts of Avadh. On this occasion, however, the distress was less severe, and Gonda suffered but little in comparison with the districts to the south. The famine was only partial and lasted for a short period. Relief was not required till the middle of January 1878, and then works were opened on two kutchra roads. They were closed at the end of February as the harvest approached and were afterwards opened for a fortnight at the end of June. All relief operations came to an end on the 10th of July. The number attending the works were never large, and the total units relieved were 11,302 men and 21,608 women and children. these figures are sufficient to illustrate the favourable position of the district on this occasion. The Kharif crop of 1877 was estimated at 62 per cent or better than in any other district of the State save Bahraich alone. The revenue was paid with ease, no suspensions or remissions being necessary, and, in fact, the farmers in the lowlying areas made large profits from the high prices.

The effects of famine of 1897 were somewhat marked in this district owing not only to the drought of 1896 but also to the damage done by the wet seasons in the preceding years and specially that of 1894. The rainfall in 1896 was sufficient, though short in June ; but in the next month it was less than half of the normal. In the beginning of August there was a heavy rainfall but at the end of the month it ceased. The Kharif was only 40 per cent of the normal, coarse grains were about 56 per cent, but the *jarhan* rice was an almost entire failures. Maize did very well in Tarabganj and was fair in Gonda tahsil ; but it was very poor in Utraula, which also contains the most rice land. Consequently a large area amounting to 3188 sq. km. was affected by scarcity, the rest included the Balrampur estate which looked after its own tenantry without any external assistance and paid its revenue in full. The failure of harvest elsewhere resulted in considerable distress during winter season. Relief works were opened on the 24th of December on the intermediate petty contract system. All works were closed by June 1897. The total amount thus expended was Rs. 26,557 and the number of persons relieved was 2,33,761. Besides these, large numbers of people were employed on village works, while others were relieved in the poor-houses. As an early date local committees were formed to raise subscriptions for providing clothing and blankets for the poor and for the distribution of doles, both in cash and kind. The Mahajans of Nawabganj established a private kitchen, from which they distributed cooked food; while Government poorhouses were established at Gonda and Utraula. Altogether about Rs 34,000 were expended from the charitable relief fund. The distress practically disappeared with the Rabi harvest, which was fair. It covered a full area and the crop amounted to nearly two-thirds of the normal.

A slight recrudescence of distress occurred after harvest but all trace of this vanished with the rains. The revenue demand was collected in full in 1896, but in the following year difficulty was felt by the embarrassed landlords, a numerous class in this district and suspensions were sanctioned to the extent of Rs 1,14,058 and Rs 2 274 were remitted. In 1904 a severe famine was experienced in tahsil Gonda and Tarabganj.

The famine of 1907-08 was of a very severe nature. The most seriously affected portion was the northern-eastern one of the district, north to the Kuano river. The relief programmes were not quite complete in this area as the failure of the rain in the sub-montane portion of the district was never anticipated and consequently large preparations had to be made to combat the famine which was recognised early in December, 1907 and test works were opened.

Relief works were kept open so long as they attracted labourers in fair numbers. All public works were closed during the month of June. There were three Government poor-houses in the district and a private kitchen was maintained during the worst period of distress at Nawabganj. The Maharaja of Balrampur opened two poor-houses : one at Balrampur and the other at Tulsiapur. The Arya Samaj also opened a poor-house at Gonda.

The measures of relief expanded steadily until the 14th of March, 1908 when there were 1,66,000 persons on relief, of whom 1,54,500 were being relieved on works. On arrival of the monsoon, early in June, the works were rapidly closed but during July and August there was a steady expansion in the number requiring gratuitous relief which reached the high figure of 79,600 on the 22nd August. An amount of Rs 2,48,774 were remitted on account of land revenue and Rs 10,81,670 were suspended on account of land revenue but were recovered in full after famine.

Maharaja of Balrampur undertook the cost of relief operations on his large estates in this and other districts. A severe famine was again experienced in 1915.

The famine of 1929 was a partial one due to failure of monsoon of 1928, following on the excessive rains of the previous cold weather. Famine was declared in an area of 1,750 sq. km. and scarcity was also declared in small tract of 300 sq.km. south of the Rapti. This tract was entirely dependent on rice and the position was sufficiently bad to necessitate the opening of test work early in January 1929.

Most of the affected area belonged to the Balrampur estate where private works organised by the estate formed a very important part of the relief. Those works afforded relief to 18,61,619 units at a total cost of Rs 2,52,918.

In addition to the direct measures of relief referred to above, the Government gave considerable assistance to the land-holders and cultivators by the remission and suspension of land revenue and grant of *taqavi* loans in the form both of cash and seed. Kharif instalment of land revenue to the amount of Rs 1,80,771 was suspended of which Rs 1,07,262 was remitted. Rabi instalment of land revenue to the amount of Rs 53,653 was also suspended and Rs 29,385 was remitted.

### **Floods**

In 1873 the district suffered from severe flood due to very heavy rainfall. Again in 1879 a severe flood came in rivers Saryu and Ghaghara affecting tahsil Tarabganj.

In the middle of August, 1922, very extensive and unprecedented floods were reported from tahsil Tarabganj caused by the Ghaghara and Saryu rivers. No less than 244 villages were affected, out of which 202 villages suffered a loss of more than 50 per cent. Arrangements were made for immediate relief of distress and assistance in the form of grain was given to the inhabitants of numerous villages completely cut off from outside communication. The relief was carried out from funds contributed by the Gonda Court of Wards, District Boards, Aman Sabha and private persons.

Besides the usual relief given to the sufferers a sum of Rs 12,859 on account of land revenue was remitted. Subsequently on consideration, however, a sum of Rs 4,601 was further remitted.

In 1931-32 a disastrous flood visited tahsil Utraula and Tarabganj. The standing Kharif crop over extensive areas in both the tahsils suffered severe damage necessitating remission of land revenue amounting to Rs 12,097 and Rs 11,896 respectively.

Tahsil Tarabganj suffered from floods again in 1932-33 but slightly. As a measure of relief land revenue to the extent of Rs 338 was remitted.

The floods of 1939 was, however, severe causing much damage and distress.

The following table shows the details of natural calamities during 1971 to 1978 :

Calamity	Tahsil	Year	Area affected in hectares	Relief measures and amount spent (in Rs)	Number of persons employed in relief work	Amount remitted in land revenue (in Rs)	Amount suspended in land revenue (in Rs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Floods	Gonda	1971-72	1,413	31,67,318	—	11,884	—
	Utraula	"	6,650	—	—	24,245	—
	Tarabganj	"	30,834	—	—	1,97,425	2,95,393
	Balrampur	"	16,360	—	—	99,528	1,21,440
Drought	Balrampur	1972-73	40,652	9,12,625	4,09,365	1,70,642 LR	1,39,234 DT
Floods	Gonda	1973-74	17,552	—	—	—	—
"	Tarabganj	"	6,560	3,01,376	—	4,923 LR	—
"	Balrampur	"	7,410	—	—	8,364 DT	—
"						12,390 LR	—
						25,249 LR	—
						40,145 DT	—
"	Balrampur	1974-75	39,983	1,12,965	—	1,82,887 LR	—
						1,12,014 DT	—
Fire	—	1975-76	—	1,79,500	—	—	—
"	—	1976-77	61,000	—	—	—	—
"	—	1977-78	—	52,000	—	—	—
Hailstorm	Gonda	"	1,05,897	—	—	—	—
flood	Tarabganj	"	65,283	—	—	—	—
and	Utraula	"	1,07,498	—	—	—	—
drought	Balrampur	"	52,925	—	—	—	—

### Agricultural Co-operatives

In 1976-77 there were in all 18 farming societies which had been established between 1966 and 1969. The 6 marketing societies of the district had been established between 1957 to 1963. The farming societies grew 2,23,326 quintals of agricultural produce and marketed 1,76,379 quintals whereas the six marketing societies marketed 14,10,952 quintals of agricultural produce.

## CHAPTER V

### INDUSTRIES

#### OLD-TIME INDUSTRIES

The manufactures of the district were of little importance in the past. Only such industries were in vogue as provided the modest needs to a rural population.

Cotton-weaving was carried on to a considerable extent by the weavers, who were either Julahas or Koris. *Garha* was the main item of manufacture, and in the second decade of this century, the trade suffered due to the influx of factory-made cloth from Bombay and Kanpur Cotton was imported but ginned and cleaned locally. Cotton printing was to some extent done at several places, such as Birpur, Katra, Nawabganj, and Paras, and the work was considered to be of good quality. However, most of the cloth from the district was sent to Faizabad for printing.

Cloth was often dyed with catechu, which was formerly produced in considerable quantity in the northern forests of the district. Chain, a subcaste of Mallah were engaged in the trade. Brass vessels were also manufactured at Khargupur in tahsil Gonda and Machhaligaon in tahsil Utraula. The pottery was of the usual kind, save that made in tahsil Utraula. Artistic *gharras* and other common vessels were painted by local artist or *kamangars* in floral patterns. The ground was usually dark-green and flowers were painted on this with skills and brilliance. The pottery resembled that of Biswan in district Sitapur and was chiefly made for presentation purposes. Glass bangles were produced by *lonias* and were either sold locally or exported to Faizabad. Baskets were woven from bamboo and cane in the villages situated along the river Kuwana, and a fair number of baskets were exported to Lucknow; Gorakhpur and Bara Banki.

Four large-scale factories for the production of sugar were established in the thirties of this century. The Nawabganj Sugar Mills, Company, Ltd. Nawabganj was opened in 1932 and the Balrampur Chini Mills, Ltd, Balrampur was commissioned in 1933. The Tulsipur Sugar Company, Ltd, Tulsipur, and the Sakseria Sugar Mills, Company, Ltd, Babhnan, were established in 1933-34. Another large-scale unit the Narang Industries, Ltd. Nawabganj commenced production of country, rectified and denatured spirits in 1943. Another large-scale factory, the Narang Breweries, Ltd, was established at Nawabganj in 1968-69, which produces beer from barley and yeast. A large number of small-scale industrial units were opened in the district after 1947.

According to the census of 1961, there were 7,126 registered and unregistered factories and workshops in the district in 1961. The State average for that year was 4,460, and Gonda was one of the nine districts in the State having more than 6,000 workshops and factories. Of these 5,806 units were situated in the rural area and 1,320 in the urban area. In the rural area, the largest number (2,043) was engaged in the production of edible fats and oils (other than hydrogenated oil) followed by the manufacture of wood and allied products (684). In the urban area the largest number (258) were engaged in the manufacture of jewellery and silverware using gold and silver, followed by the manufacture of textile garments.

The predominant working group in the urban area was between 2 and 5 workers accounting for 46.4 per cent, while in the rural area single-worker establishments were most prevalent accounting for 85.4 per cent.

### POWER

A power house was established in the district in 1939, and electricity was supplied to Gonda town from the same unit in 1942. It was taken over by the U. P. State Electricity Board in 1964.

In 1961, quite a number of industrial establishments in the district were run without power. Electricity was used in only 8 rural and 112 urban industrial establishments. The percentage of such establishments, which were run without power, was 76.2 in the rural area and 46.8 in the urban. Solid fuel was used in 22.6 per cent of the rural and 39.2 per cent of the urban establishments.

There were six sub-stations in the district in 1977. The following statement gives the consumption of power in the district in 1976-77 :

Purpose			
Industrial		Other	
No. of connections	No. of units Consumed	No. of connections	No. of consumed
1,106	53,28,129	9,337	1,31,09,357

There were 4,785 consumers and 90,10,778 units were consumed in 1976-77 in the urban areas of the district.

The consumption of power has been steadily increasing, the per capita consumption of power was only 0.9 unit in 1960 which increased to 3.9 units in 1970 and to 7.9 units in 1977.

**Rural Electrification**—Electricity was provided to 11 villages in 1960, and by the end of 1970 the total number of electrified villages was 93, which increased to 166 by the end of 1977. The

total number of connections provided in the rural areas was 5,658 and 94,26,708 units of power were consumed in 1976-77.

### LARGE-SCALE INDUSTRIES

Sugar is produced in four large-scale factories which are situated at Balrampur, Babhnan, Nawabganj and Tulsipur. Spirits and beer are produced in two units at Nawabganj. Sugar-cane is the main raw material used in the manufacture of sugar. Most of it is available locally, but some is also imported from district Faizabad. Molasses which is consumed in the production of country, rectified and denatured spirits, is available as a by-product of the manufacture of sugar. Barley and yeast, the raw materials used in the manufacture of beer are available in plenty in the district. The following statement gives some data about the large-scale industrial units in the district in 1976.

Industrial units	Total investment (in Rs)	Value of raw materials used (in Rs)	Production		No. of persons employed
			Name (s) of goods	value (in Rs)	
The Nawabganj Sugar Mills, Company, Ltd, Nawabganj	1,31,50,000	22,84,560	Sugar	2,44,45,000	1,343
Balrampur Chini Mills, Ltd, Balrampur	81,55,000	17,64,000	Sugar	3,14,86,000	436
Tulsipur Sugar Company, Ltd, Tulsipur	1,66,36,958	19,44,000	Sugar	2,78,50,000	1,085
Sakseria Sugar Mills, Ltd, Babhnan	70,47,000	14,40,000	Sugar	1,46,03,000	410
The Narang Industries Ltd, Nawabganj	38,13,000	30,03,400	Spirits	33,40,000	166
The Narang Breweries, Ltd, Nawabganj	78,44,000	12,27,000	Beer	16,36,000	186

### Small-scale Industries

There were 128 registered small-scale industrial units in the district in 1976 which produced oil, rice, pulses dhotis, shirtings, bone-meal, plywood products, wooden furniture, planks, steel furniture and boxes, shoes, candles, etc. About Rs 67,66,000 were invested in the trades in 1976, when goods worth Rs 68,52,100 were produced consuming raw materials worth Rs 49,32,793. About 640 persons were employed in the registered small-scale industries of the district in 1976. Besides, there are large number of unregistered units in the district.



A brief account of each type of industry as it existed in 1976 follows.

**Processing**—A Large number of the small-scale industries in the district are engaged in the processing of paddy wheat *arhar* gram, *urd* moong and oil-seeds. Rice, wheat-flour, pulses and oil are produced in 43 units which are located at Gonda, Balrampur, Paraspur, Tulsipur, Utraula and Mankapur. About Rs 39,66,000 were invested in the trade providing employment to 215 persons.

**Timber**—Plywood panels, chests, plank and furniture are produced in 11 units which are situated at Gonda, Balrampur, Tulsipur, Mankapur, Colonelganj and Nawabganj. The trade with an investment of Rs 10,00,000 in 1976 provided employment to 130 persons. Timber is made available from the forests of the district.

**Textile**—Cloth and dhotis are woven from cotton-yarn in two units which are located at Dhanepur. In 1976 the total investment in the trade stood at about Rs 10,000, only 4 persons were employed in it.

**Bone-meal**—Bones are crushed and processed into bone-meal in seven units, situated at Gonda, Balrampur, Tulsipur and Paraspur. A sum of nearly Rs 50,000 was invested in the trade in 1976 and 35 persons were employed in it.

**Engineering Industries**—Steel furniture, boxes, almirahs, and shutters are manufactured in 16 units at Gonda, Balrampur, Tulsipur, and Nawabganj. About Rs 2,00,000 were invested in the trade in 1976 and 55 persons were employed in it. Iron and steel are imported from Kanpur.

**Lime**—Lime is produced from *Kankar* in three units which are situated at Gonda and Balrampur. In 1976 the total investment in the trade was Rs 20,000, and only 9 persons were employed in it.

**Other Industries**—Candles, leather shoes, bags and purses are made in 46 units which are located at Gonda, Balrampur, Nawabganj, Colonelganj, Mankapur, Tulsipur and Paraspur. About Rs 15,20,000 was invested in the trades in 1976, which provided employment to 192 persons.

### Village and Cottage Industries

Among the village and cottage industries, the more important are weaving of cloth, sericulture, carpentry, blacksmithy, basketry, production of oil and *gur* (Jaggery), pottery, footwear and utensils. According to the census-1961, largest number of persons

were employed in making of pottery, and the minimum in the manufacture of utensils. The following statement indicates the number of persons engaged in various trades in 1961 :

Trade	No. of villages in which the trade was practised	No. of persons employed
Pottery	318	2,967
Cotton textile	12	1,411
Leather footwear	62	342
Basketry	15	263
Woollen blanket	8	50
Brassware and copperware	3	27

**Handloom Cloth**—The industry is on the decline in the district. At one time, probably two decades ago, there were 800 looms operating in the district. Nearly half of the looms had ceased to operate by 1970, the main reasons for the set-back to industry being the poverty of the weavers and the old traditional but out-dated method of production. Efforts were then made to organise the weavers on co-operative lines. Consequently 11 industrial handloom co-operative societies with a total membership of 429 persons were registered in 1968, but by the end of 1970 only 7 societies were operating, the rest having ceased to function due to dissension amongst the members.

The industry appears to be in the process of decay, as only 24 units were operating in 1976 in the entire district. The total investment in the trade stood at Rs 3,600, and dhotis and bed-covers worth Rs 61,700 were produced consuming raw material (cotton-yarn) worth Rs 26,000.

**Blanket Weaving**—Woollen blankets were woven in 40 units, with a total investment of Rs 3,300 in 1976. Blankets worth Rs 26,500 were produced consuming raw material (wool) worth Rs 13,000. About 100 persons were engaged in the trade.

**Sericulture**—A sericulture development scheme was introduced in the district in 1966. Under this scheme mulberry cultivation and rearing of cocoons has been encouraged in phases over 16 ha. of land at Rehra and Ganeshpur. About 4,000 kg. of cocoons are produced annually.

**Carpentry and Smithery**—There are 5 022 carpenters who operate 1,674 units, and 2,254 blacksmiths who operate 748 smithy units in the district. The carpentry units are functioning in villages, and the main items of manufacture are wheels for bullock-carts, planks, doors and ploughs. The blacksmiths are also found all over the district. They manufacture traditional agricultural

implements like sickle, spade, and kitchen implements like *sandasi* and *chimta*. In 1976, investment in the carpentry and smithcraft was Rs 1,20,000 and Rs 52,400 respectively. Timber, metal bars and sheets, the main raw materials, are generally procured from market at Gonda and in the tahsils. The following statement gives the value of raw materials used and value of production of the trades in 1976 :

Trade	Value of raw materials used (in Rs)	Value of production (in Rs)
Carpentry	8,00,000	15,41,200
Black-smithery	1,25,000	4,07,000

**Oil and Gur**—Oil is extracted from mustard and groundnut. In 1976 there were 1,306 such units which provided employment to 3,855 persons. Gur (Jaggery) is produced in 126 units employing 443 persons. The farmers utilize part of their produce of sugarcane for the manufacture of gur. It is estimated that in 1976, Rs 1,26,000 and Rs 2,43,700 were invested in the gur and oil producing industries respectively.

The following statement gives the value of raw materials used and goods produced by the trades in 1976 :

Industry	Value of raw materials used (in Rs)	Production (value in Rs)
Gur	4,88,500	6,96,300
Oil	1,64,000	4,20,400

**Pottery and Footwear**—Pottery and footwear are produced in 628 and 311 units which had investments of Rs 28,700 and Rs 28,000 respectively in 1976, providing employment to 2,128 potters and 990 cobblers of the district. The shoemakers are concentrated at Gonda, Balrampur and Pachnerwa while the potters are to be found all over the district. The following statement gives the value of raw materials (clay, dyes and leather) used and goods produced by the trades in 1976 :

Trade	Value of raw materials used (in Rs)	Production (value in Rs)
Pottery	36,400	3,26,100
Footwear	73,000	2,60,000

**Baskets and Ropes**—Baskets, mats and hand-fans are produced from bamboo, *Jhau* and *narkol*. In 1976 about Rs 6,300 were invested in 134 units, which were manned by 268 persons. Ropes and strings of Jute and *moonj* are made in 26 units which had an investment of Rs 5,300 and engaged 52 persons.

The following statement gives some information about the aforesaid industries in the district in 1976 :

Trade	Value of raw materials used (in Rs)	Production (value in Rs)
Basketry	22,000	47,000
Ropes and strings	11,000	33,000

**Brassware**—Brass utensils are manufactured in villages Kharagupur and Machhaligaon, and in Utraula and Balrampur towns. About 150 artisans are employed in the occupation. The items manufactured are *gagra*, *pateeli*, and *batloi* (different types of utensils). The utensils are manufactured out of brass scrap, which is collected from within the district as well as from outside. In addition to their own regular production, the artisans also manufacture utensils on contract basis for the customers who supply raw materials to them. The production of all types of utensils is estimated at 50 tonnes valued at Rs 4,50,000 annually.

**Other Industries**—*Bidis* (indigenous cigarettes) are made in two units at Gonda, which had a total investment of Rs 13,000 in 1976. *Bidis* worth Rs 19,700 were produced consuming *tendu* leaves and tobacco worth Rs 8,300. Each unit employs 4 persons.

**Soops** (implement for winnowing grain) are made in 19 units which are located at Gonda, Khavasa, Mantapur, Tulsipur and other places. About Rs 1,900 were invested in the trade and soops worth Rs 14,400 were produced consuming, bamboo, leather, etc. worth Rs 4,800 in 1976. About 40 persons were employed in the trade.

**Jail Industry**—Mats, *niwar* and durries are manufactured in the district jail by the interneers. Goods worth Rs 12,900 were produced consuming *mooni* cotton-yarn and dyes worth Rs 10,100 in 1976. About 14 interneers were employed in the trade.

### Aid to Industries

Financial aid is made available to entrepreneurs by various financial institutions. The purpose of the loans is to establish or expand, renovate or modernise the industries. Gonda being one of the economically backward districts of the State, enjoys certain concessions such as low rates of interest and repayment in convenient easy instalments extending over a period of 10 to 15 years.

In the district, the U. P. Financial Corporation and the commercial banks provide credit to the industrialists. The U. P. Financial Corporation, Kanpur, has opened a branch-office at Faizabad, extends financial aid to industries on its own behalf, and on behalf of the State Government.

The following statement gives the quantum of aid given by the U. P. Financial Corporation and the commercial banks in the district in 1976 and 1977 :

Name of institution	Year	No. of industrial units receiving the loans	Amount (in Rs)
U. P. Financial Corporation, Kanpur	1976	7	8,42,000
State Bank of India	1976	4	73,050
Allahabad Bank	1976	7	1,98,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1976</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11,13,050</b>
U. P. Financial Corporation,	1977	9	28,13,000
State Bank of India	1977	4	48,500
Allahabad Bank	1977	18	2,28,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1977</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30,89,500</b>

### Industrial Potential

The following industries can be established in the district as favourable conditions exist for them.

Baker's yeast is manufactured out of molasses which is available locally and in plenty. About 84,000 quintals of molasses are produced in the four sugar factories of the district. A small-scale unit for the production of baker's yeast can be profitably established.

About 1,500 tonnes of linseed is produced annually in the district. Which is generally exported to outside places such as Calcutta. It can be utilised for the manufacture of double boiled linseed oil, which is used mainly in the manufacture of paints. One unit can be established in the district for the manufacture of paints and a subsidiary unit for the manufacture of double boiled linseed oil.

Jute is an important commercial crop of the district. The total production of jute is estimated at 1,430 tonnes per annum. At present the entire jute produced in the district is sent outside mainly to Gorakhpur and Kanpur. A small-scale modern unit can be established in the district for the manufacture of twines and ropes

A number of industries, based on expending demand, can be established in the district. The demand for improved agricultural implements such as iron ploughs, threshers, disc harrows, etc., is increasing steadily, and implements valued at nearly Rs 2 lakhs, are imported annually from outside the district.

The district imports builder's hardware such as hinges, staples, door handles, latches, built-in locks, etc., worth about Rs 3,00,000 annually from Aligarh and Kanpur. A small-scale unit can be established for the manufacture of the hardware. Hand-pumps are also in great demand in the rural areas, which are imported from other districts worth about Rs 5,00,000. A few units for their manufacture can also be established in the district.

The following statement gives the list of other demand based industries that can be established in the district :

Industry	Goods to be manufactured	Annual requirement in the district (value in Rs)
Hand-tools	Hammers, chisels, screw drivers etc.	50,000
Rolling shutters	Shutters and accessories	50,000
Brass bush	Brass bush, (used in diesel engines, tube-walls, crushers, etc.)	30,000
Insecticides	Insecticides	1,00,000
Phenol	Phenol	10,000
Salt	Refined table salt	10,000
Wax	Sealing wax, candles, etc.	25,000
Ready-made garments	Shirts, bush-shirts, pyjamas, Pants, etc.	3,00,000

1. Figures relate to 1976-77.

### Welfare of Industrial Labour

After 1947, many schemes have been introduced with a view to provide more and better facilities to the working class. The labour welfare measures aim to benefit the labour community by ensuring minimum wages, social security, security for old age, collective bargaining through the medium of recognised trade unions, medical and maternity facilities, regulated working hours, payment of bonus, payment of compensation, working facilities and safety measures in the factories and industrial establishments.

At the district level the labour inspector ensures the administration and implementation of labour laws. The factories inspector inspects the various establishments in order to enforce the requirements of the factory laws.

## CHAPTER VI

### BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

#### BANKING AND FINANCE

##### History of Indigenous Banking

In the ancient period, the region covered by the present district of Gonda had flourishing trade in and outside the district. The business of dealing in money was highly developed and money-dealers were found in all centres of trade in the district. In the ancient period Sravasti, was an important centre of trade as also Mahadeva and Dhusahi (near Balrampur). In the medieval period Gonda, Utraula, Bhashapara, Makanpur and Devi Patan were some of the main centres of trade. *Hundis* (negotiable instruments) were in vogue. Treasuries were located at the district headquarters and in the tahsils under the British rule. Money was available in larger quantities and village usurer came into importance. The cultivators were commonly indebted as also the smaller zamindars, but not to the same extent as in other parts of Avadh. The village *Bania* (rader) was regarded rather as the friend of the people than otherwise and a large percentage of the population depended on the money-leaders for credit. Earlier the cultivator used to set apart the best of his share for seed, but in the first decade of this century he was compelled to sell his grain in order to pay the rent and to rely on the *Bania* for an advance at next sowing time. The rate of interest on cash loans varied according to the circumstances of the borrower. The most common rates were 24 and 36 per cent per annum. When security was offered the rate was reduced and taluqdar paid only 6 per cent per annum on the security of his estate. Others could also borrow on the security of land. In the case of grain could also borrow on the security of land. In the case of grain advanced either for food or seed the interest comprised mainly the difference in the market rates at the time of advance and the harvest, when repayment was made. The system known as 'up' was frequently adopted for a short period when the stock was low, a few weeks before harvest. —In that case the cultivator borrowed a sum of money on condition of repayment when the crops were reaped. The loan was redeemed in grain at the market price then prevailing while five or ten seers were added on each rupee by way of interest. Other forms were *deorahi* (one and half-times) and *sawai* (one and quarter times).

Trade as it developed in the wake of laying of railway line in 1898, and the construction of new roads, depended, by and large, on the indigenous system of banking. However in 1901 the commercial classes comprised only 0.7 per cent of the total population, which represented a higher figure than Kheri and Sitapur districts, but below the average of Avadh.

The British also introduced the banking system with the establishment of the Zila Sahkari Bank, Ltd., at Balrampur in 1920. In 1943 two commercial banks were opened at Bargaon and Gonda.

However the number of commercial banks increased considerably after 1950, but particularly after 1970.

### Indebtedness

**Rural**—At the time of the first regular Settlement the general condition of the people is said to have been some what better in other parts of Avadh. Such a situation obtained in the district in the first quarter of this century. There were, however, several exceptions. The underproprietors were generally indebted, the cause lying partly in the great increase in their number leading to minute subdivisions (of land) and the consequent inevitable litigation among the people. The single zamindars were, for the most part, in a prosperous condition, and the same may be said of the coparcenary bodies, with the exception of the Gauraha Bisens of Mahadeva, who through improvidence and lack of energy were always in debt and in arrears with their revenue. They added to their problems by dividing their property into large complex, mahals, which were an effective obstacle to good management. The estates of the smaller taluqdars were for the most part fairly well administered and were in a flourishing condition, but several of the larger taluqas suffered greatly because of careless management, extravagant expenditure and costly litigation. Among the cultivating communities the lower and more energetic groups, such as Kurmi's and Maroas, were the most prosperous, and some managed to acquire small parcels of land. On the other hand Rajputs and Brahmanas were frequently in debt, as they were poor cultivators, and their style of living was more expensive.

With the enactment of different debt-relief legislations beginning with the Usurious Loans Act, 1918, the debtors, began to get relief.

The economic depression of the thirties brought in its wake considerable economic difficulties as prices, incomes and investments decreased sharply. The rise in prices during the Second World War (1939-45), no doubt increased the incomes of agriculturists, but a corresponding rise in the prices of other consumer goods, left the agriculturists with little or no gain.

The small farmers and the landless agricultural labourers continued to have a sub-marginal existence in the throes of rising prices. Another important factor which has added to the problems, is the increase in population.

The population of the district increased by 10.43 per cent in the decade 1951-61, and by 11.04 per cent in the decade 1961-71.

According to a survey undertaken by the Reserve Bank of India in 1971, in the region covered by the eastern Uttar Pradesh (which includes district Gonda), it was estimated that the total average value of the assets of the household of a farmer was Rs 16,037.15 and he was indebted for Rs. 161.07.



**Urban Indebtedness**—The rise in prices forced a large number of persons residing in the urban centres of the district also to borrow money. Only a few persons with high incomes were free from debt. Loans are generally transacted for education marriage and other ceremonies.

### **Debt-relief Legislation**

Courts were authorised for the first time in 1918, to reopen loan transactions and relieve the debtors of the liability, when interest was excessive and the transaction unfair. The Usurious Loans Act, 1918, and its subsequent amendment in 1926, enabled the courts to examine transactions, and was applicable to all parties seeking relief from mortgage. But it did not define the words unfair, and 'excessive' with the result that the courts could not provide effective redress. By another amendment, affected in 1934 the Act was made applicable to all debts and debtors, and the limits beyond which the interest could be deemed to be excessive were laid down. The other enactments that followed the economic depression of the thirties was the United Provinces Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1934, the U. P. Temporary Postponement of Execution of Decrees Act, 1937, and the U. P. Debt Redemption Act, 1940. They enabled the debtor, to repay in easy instalments and reduced the rates of interest. They also protected the person and property of the debtor from being proceeded against in execution of decrees.

In the U. P. Regulation of Money-lending Act, 1976 definite provisions to provide relief from extortion, to small farmers, agricultural labourers, village artisans and other weaker sections of the society were made. The law is also expected to help the administration in its efforts to curb black money. It provides for the licensing of the business of money-lending, fixation of rates of interest by the government and issue of receipts and account slips by the money-lenders. It further enjoins upon the money-lender not to molest the debtors near their places of work, and make payment in cash of loans of Rs 1,000 or above by cheque.

Commercial loan advanced by banks, Life Insurance Corporation of India, co-operative societies and government and loans taken from provident fund accounts, are however, not covered by the Act.

### **Private Money-lenders and Financiers**

Money-lenders operating in the district are of two types, i.e., the local money-lenders and the money-lenders of district Lucknow. The local money-lenders are both big and small. A big money-lender is one whose total advance exceed Rs 50,000. Advances are made against promotes pledge of ornaments and other articles, mortgage of land and buildings and against anticipated crops. The rate of interest varies from 18 to 36 per cent annum. There are about 650 big money-lenders in the district whose total advances were about Rs 3 crores in 1971. There are about 3 to 5 small money-lenders in each village, generally either a traders or an affluent farmer.

The money-lenders of district Lucknow are known as *Qistiyas* and their business is known as *Qistiyon Wala* business. Five business houses of Lucknow are operating in the district. Normally the money-lenders do not insist on taking any security and make advances to borrowers for both productive and unproductive purposes only. The debtor has to execute a (ruqqa) promissory note and receipt. The advance of a fixed sum is made and the same is recovered in 12 equal monthly instalments, each generally being of Rs 10 or its multiple. To ensure repayment of the loan and to circumvent the law regarding maximum interest chargeable, the money-lender often take the promissory note for double the amount actually lent. This is used as evidence at the time of litigation, and in case the borrower repays, the full loan, the promissory note is returned or destroyed.

### Government Loans

It had been a tradition of the rulers of the country to provide relief to agriculturists in times of natural calamities. However, since 1947, the loans are provided not only for distress but also for the development of the economy.

The following statement indicates the amount of loans advanced for short-term periods in the last three years :

Year	Amount (in Rs)	Purpose	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1975-76	3,43,600	For buying live-stock, etc.	8.25
1976-77	57,550	Distress, for buying live- stock, etc.	8.25
1977-78	72,015	-do-	8.25

### Commercial Banks

The Hindustan Commercial Bank was the first to open its branch at Bargaon in September 1943. By the end of the year the Central Bank of India too established its branch at Gonda. The State Bank of India opened a branch at Gonda in 1952, and another at Balrampur in 1959. For the next ten years, banks continued to serve the district. In the latter half of 1969, a number of branches were opened in the district. In 1973 the State Bank of India had eight branches Allahabad Bank and the Punjab National Bank each had two branches while the Central Bank of India, the Hindustan Commercial Bank and the Narang Bank Ltd, each had one

branch in the district. Of these 15 branches were in rural areas and 10 in the urban areas. In the next four years the Bank of Baroda, the Bank of India and the United Bank of India also opened their branches in the district.

There are 55 branches of commercial banks in the district in 1978. The following statement gives the location of each branch :

Commercial bank	Location
Allahabad Bank	Gonda, Balrampur, Itiathoke, Katra, Bazar, Kharagupur Bazar, Munjahna, Sadullah Nagar, Maskanwa, Tarabganj, Belsar, Colonelganj, Paraspur, Wazirganj, Harraiya Satgharwa, Tulsipur, Gainsari, Pachperwa, Balpur, Mahua, Garachaki,
State Bank of India	Gonda (2 branch-offices), Utraula, Mankapur, Nawabganj, Sri Dutt Ganj, Colonelganj, Balrampur, Tulsipur, Belsar,
Punjab National Bank	Gonda, Balrampur
Bank of India	Gonda, Balrampur
Central Bank of India	Gonda
Hindustan Commercial Bank	Gonda
Narang Bank, Ltd	Nawabganj
United Bank of India	Nawabganj, Balrampur

There was a marked increase in the deposits and advances of the banks since 1969 when eight of the nine commercial banks in the district were nationalised. In June 1972, the total deposits of the commercial banks was Rs 3,33,00,000 and the advances amounted to Rs 1,74,00,000. The advances comprised 52.2 per cent of the deposits.

In the following years more funds were diverted to the weaker sections of the society and priority sector was constituted which comprises the agriculturists, small-scale industries, transport workers, retail traders, self-employed persons and students. By the end of March, 1977, the advances to the priority sector amounted to 26.8 per cent of the total advances. The deposit-credit ratio increased from 52.2 per cent in 1972, to 56.8 per cent in 1977. The following figures indicate the extent of outstanding credit to priority sector and the total deposits and advances of commercial banks on March 31, 1977.

Priority sector	Balance outstanding (in Rs)	No. of accounts
Agriculture	1,43,42,000	5,531
Small-scale industries	9,31,000	93
Transport workers	6,67,000	69
Retail traders	17,20,000	858
Self-employed persons	1,92,000	406
Students	3,000	1
Other advances	4,86,84,000	—
Total advances	6,65,39,000	—
Total deposits	11,72,30,000	—
Deposits-advances ratio (in per cent)	56.8	—

### Co-operative Movement

**Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies**—The first societies was established at Glauli in the month of April, 1906. However, the society was merged with a large-sized society at Janki Nagar in 1957.

The co-operative movement could make substantial progress only after Independence (1947). The following statement gives the growth of primary societies over the period 1950 to 1977 :

Year	No. of societies	Total membership	Loans advanced (in Rs)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1950	559	19,238	3,10,374	7.75
1960	1,905	56,769	42,19,299	8.75
1970	734	1,10,104	1,26,67,578	9.25
1978	287	1,46,983	88,18,516	14.00
1977	224	1,60,750	2,38,95,415	14.00

The co-operative movement made considerable progress during the fifties and thereafter, as is evident from the increase in membership and the amount of loans advanced in sixties and seventies. However the total number of societies have decreased since 1960 as viable and larger societies were constituted by amalgamating small societies. The amount of loans advanced to the agriculturists has also increased. Statistically, the average amount of per capita loans advanced was Rs 16 in 1950, Rs 74 in 1960, Rs 115 in 1970, Rs 60 in 1976 and Rs 149 in 1977.

The Allahabad Bank, which is the lead bank of the district, made a detailed study of all the 734 primary agricultural credit societies in 1970. The following figures indicate the economic condition and trend of the co-operative movement in the district :

Type of societies	No. of societies	Membership	Membership per society	Working capital (in Rs lakhs)
Limited liability societies	15	473	31	0.79
Large-sized society	17	25,195	1,482	60.03
Multipurpose societies	177	6,091	34	7.83
Service co-operative societies	525	78,345	149	123.43

The following figures would indicate the constituents and their percentages to the total working capital, being given below each :

Type of societies	Paid-up share capital (in Rs)	Reserve funds (in Rs)	Deposits (in Rs)	Borrowings (in Rs)	Total working capital (in Rs)
Limited liability societies	14,000 (18 %)	13,000 (16 %)	3,000 (4 %)	49,000 (62 %)	79,000
Large-sized societies	11,06,000 (19 %)	2,26,000 (3 %)	26,000 (2 %)	45,45,000 (76 %)	60,30,000
Multipurpose societies	1,49,000 (20 %)	45,000 (5 %)	18,000 (3 %)	5,71,000 (72 %)	7,83,000
Service co-operative societies	19,98,000 (17 %)	1,98,000 (1 %)	4,71,000 (3 %)	96,78,000 (79 %)	1,23,43,000
	32,67,000 (17 %)	4,80,000 (3 %)	6,18,000 (3 %)	48,43,000 (77 %)	1,92,08,000

During the year (July 1, 1969 to June 30, 1970) advances granted by all the primary agricultural credit societies, taken together, were to the use of Rs 1,26,69,000 advances repaid Rs 87,23,000, advances overdue Rs 44,53,000 and advances outstanding Rs 1,66,68,000.

The relevant data relating to each type of primary agricultural credit societies in 1969-70 are given below :

Societies	Amount (in Rs lakhs)			
	Advances	Repayment	Overdues	Outstanding
Limited liability societies	0.69	0.36	0.21	23.37
Service co-operative societies	76.48	52.24	32.86	89.27
Large-sized societies	45.03	31.86	8.54	48.15
Multipurpose societies	4.47	2.76	2.93	5.95

### Other Co-operative Institutions

There are six large co-operative marketing societies, located at Gonda, Bhagwatiganj, Tulsipur, Utraula, Colonelganj and Nawabganj which deal in food-grains, other agricultural commodities and consumer goods, thereby ensuring a just and fair return to the cultivator for his produce and making him available items of daily need as well as agricultural inputs at reasonable prices. The following statement gives some particulars about these societies :

Marketing societies	Year of establishment	Value (in Rs) of sales in 1977	Membership 1976-77
Bhagwatiganj	1957	2,69,065	5,670
Tulsipur	1958	5,05,196	100
Colonelganj	1960	7,01,398	2,267
Gonda	1960	21,68,117	1,985
Utraula	1961	4,76,816	1,166
Nawabganj	1963	17,45,197	1,044

The District Co-operative Development Federation, Ltd., was established at Gonda in 1948. It is the central institution for consumer co-operatives and deals in sugar, kerosene oil, cement, seed, fertilisers and stationery. It had a investment of Rs 1,01,287 and its total membership was 86 in 1976.

The following statement gives the value of sale as undertaken by the federation in 1977 :

Commodity	Value of sales (in Rs)
Seed	1,42,028
Cement	1,38,138
Sugar	1,03,183
Fertilisers	99,611
Stationery	11,791
Kerosene oil	11,684
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,06,435</b>

**Co-operative Banks**—The Zila Sahkari Bank, Ltd, Gonda was established at Balrampur in 1920. It has 16 branches which are located at Balrampur, Gonda, Utraula, Nawabganj, Mankapur, Pachperwa, Tulsipur, Coloneiganj, Ragarganj, Dhanepur, Maskinwa, Kauria, Sadullah nagar, Itiathok, Paraspur and Wazirganj. Loans and banking facilities are available to agriculturists and others, who are members of the bank. There were 467 such members in 1975-76. The following statement gives the amount of loans advanced by the bank from 1973-74 to 1975-76 :

Year	Amount of loan advanced (in Rs)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1973-74	2,69,84,000	11.5
1974-75	2,87,14,000	11.5
1975-76	2,33,79,000	11.5

The U. P. Co-operative Land Development Bank, Ltd. has four branches in the district, which are located at Gonda, Balrampur, Utraula and Nawabganj. The bank advances long term loans to the agriculturists. In the Fifth Five-year Plan greater stress was laid on the development of minor irrigation facilities in the district, and the bank advanced money for this purpose. The following statement gives the amount of loans advanced by the bank from 1974 to 1976 :

Year	Amount of loan advanced (in Rs)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1974	48,59,000	9.5 to 10.5
1975	71,16,000	9.5 to 10.5
1976	80,50,000	9.5 to 10.5

### National Savings Organisation

The post-office savings bank scheme has been in vogue since the last decade of the nineteenth century. Other schemes were, from time to time, launched to inculcate a habit of thrift in people, and tap the savings to make funds available for developmental works. In 1962 defence deposits and national defence certificates were introduced to help raise funds and augment the resources for the defence of the country. A 15 year public provident fund scheme is also in vogue since 1974.

The following statement gives some information (as on December 31, 1976) about the national savings which include postal small savings cumulative time deposits and national saving certificate in the district :

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Total value of all savings	Rs 73,19,500
No. of accounts	20,750

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### Life Insurance

The life insurance business was taken over by the Life Insurance Corporation of India, in 1956 and a branch office of the corporation was opened at Gonda in 1960. Subsequently a development centre was opened at Balrampur. The following statement gives the business done by the corporation during the last two years:

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Year	No. of lives insured	Business completed (in Rs)
1976-77	2,446	2,84,98,750
1977-78	2,116	2,07,90,000

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### Currency and Coinage

The weight of the earliest coins was based on the system laid down in Manu-Samhita. Generally coins of a single metal copper or silver, were in circulation.

In the medieval period there were mainly three types of coins—the dam (one fortieth of a rupee), the rupee, and the mohar<sup>1</sup>.

The British issued their own rupee of 180 grains, which comprised 16 annas, and an anna divided into 12 pies or four paisas (old).

The decimal system of coinage was introduced on October 1, 1958 under which rupee was divided into 100 paise. Coins of one paisa and its multiples of two, three, five, ten, twenty, twenty-five and fifty are in circulation.

The currency consists of one rupee note and coins issued by the Government of India, and the bank notes issued by the Reserve Bank of India which has also issued notes of the denominations of rupees two, five, ten, twenty, fifty and one hundred. Currency and coinage are made available to the district through branches of the State Bank of India located at Gonda, Utraula, Mankapur, Nawabganj, Colonelganj, Balrampur, Tulsipur and Balsar.

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1. Fanday, A. B. : Later Mediaeval India, P. 491, (Allahabad, 1963)



## TRADE AND COMMERCE

## Course of Trade

Before the laying of railway lines in the district in 1898, the main trade routes led through Nawabganj and through Colonelganj to Lucknow. There was considerable traffic in grains, which were carried by bullock-carts to Lucknow via Bahramghat. In the opening year of the twentieth century, the tendency of the trade in grain had been rather towards concentration at a few commercial centres. Tulsipur and Colonelganj were two such centres where grain was collected by wealthy merchants and stored until the prices prevailing at Kanpur and other major markets made its export in large quantities profitable. The railway stations, in course of time, became the main centres of trade, as the railway with its more rapid, cheap and secure means of transit secured a large proportion of traffic. There was a considerable increase in the trade with Lucknow, Kanpur and Gorakhpur.

In the second half of the twentieth century a large number of roads were built enabling plying of a larger number of trucks for transporting goods, on the routes leading to Faizabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Bahraich and Gorakhpur.

## Export and Import

The trade of the district in the first decade of the twentieth century mainly comprised the agricultural and forest produce. The principal article of export was the fine rice of the sub-Himalayan lowlands, for which the Tulsipur pargana had long been famous. Other products were wheat and hides, the former being exported in large quantities to Kanpur, after the spring harvest. Other items of export were timber, fuel and *baib* grass from the forests; dried fish, oil-seeds, and other grains. The chief articles of import were cloth, piece goods, metals, salt spices, and the like.

In 1904-05 the total quantity of imports from Nepal was about (5598.6 m. tons) consisting of mainly fibrous articles, oil-seeds, food-grains, drugs, spices, iron and ghi. The exports for the same period were only 503.87 m. tons of which no less than 279.93 m. tons consisted of salt, while the remainder consisted of piece-goods, sugar, tobacco, kerosene oil, vegetables, fruits, and other articles of food, including a large amount of dried fish, which was highly prized by the hillmen, who rated it according to the strength of its flavour. According to a survey held in 1971, sugar worth Rs 9 crores, linseed 12,000 quintals and Jute 19,000 quintals were exported annually to Calcutta, Kanpur and Gorakhpur.

The export pattern of the district by large is still dominated by agricultural commodities as the following statement which relates to 1976 indicates :

Commodities	Export (in quintals)
Wheat	1,35,500
Paddy	22,000
Arhar	12,200
Gram	3,520
Linseed	3,225
Peas	720
Mustard seed	645
Maize	450
Masur	345
Jaggery	187
Jowar	190

The imports of the district comprise mainly of general merchandise, raw materials for various industries, machinery, cloth, metal goods, tobacco and its products, footwear and leather goods, medicines, drugs and fertilizers, from places like Bombay and Calcutta, and other centres Kanpur, Lucknow, Faizabad, Varanasi and Gorakhpur. Some of the imports are from Nepal for which Tulsipur is an important centre.

### Trade Centres

The Forbesganj market, which is located at Gonda and which was named after a former deputy commissioner, is an important assembling market of the district.

There are 59 wholesale dealers, 34 commission agents and retail traders in food-grains, 44 wholesale traders in oil-seeds and 5 traders who deal in gur (jaggery) in the district.

The following statement gives the annual turnover of the market in 1976 :

Commodity	Turn over-quantity (in quintals)	Value (in Rs)
Wheat	1,60,290	1,76,31,900
Paddy	1,33,306	99,97,950
Arhar	14,417	21,62,550
Gram	8,147	9,63,320
Maize	7,147	6,43,230
Mustard	3,932	6,45,780
Rice	2,748	3,02,280
Barley	2,106	1,24,254
Gur	1,846	2,58,440
Jowar	1,166	81,620
Peas	1,126	1,46,380
Masur	651	97,650

The market for other goods, namely drugs, medicines, cloth, agricultural implements, fertilizers, machinery, furniture, electrical goods, general merchandise, fruits and vegetables is extensive at Gonda.

The other important marketing centres dealing in paddy, rice, jowar, *bajra* (pearl-millet), maize, *urd*, *moong*, wheat, barley, gram, peas, *arhar*, oil-seeds (mustard, etc.) and *gur* (jaggery) are located at Colonelganj, Balrampur, Tulsipur, Pachperwa, Utraula and Nawabganj. Apart from Gonda, Balrampur, Tulsipur and Pachperwa are also main wholesale markets for rice and paddy in the district.

The following statement indicates the quantities of all commodities sold in these markets in 1975-76 :

Wholesale market	Commodities sold (in quintals)	No. of traders in the market
Balrampur	69,914	103
Colonelganj	64,709	24
Tulsipur	41,216	24
Pachperwa	27,282	22
Nawabganj	20,053	14

Smaller wholesale markets are situated at Bargaon, Bhagwatipur, Gainsari, Utraula and Mankapur.

**Retail Trade**—The retail trade centres, known as bazars and *hats* are located in the urban and rural areas of the district. The common requirements of the villagers and those residing in the urban centres, are generally met by traders and pedlars in the bazars. These markets are held once, twice, or thrice a week. The following statement gives the number of bazars and *hats* held in each tahsil of the district :

Tahsil	No. of markets held
Tarabganj	20
Gonda	18
Balrampur	17
Utraula	5
Total	60

## Fairs

Majority of the fairs that are held in the district, are of religious nature and their commercial importance is limited. However, the Devi Patan fair held at Tulsipur in the month of March or April Chaitra *sukla* 1-15) has some commercial value too, as more than 1,00,000 persons congregate there daily who naturally like to make some purchases. Wooden articles, carpets, cattle, spices, cloth, utensils, agricultural implements, live-stock and food-grains are the common commodities sold in the fair. Traders from Lucknow, Faizabad, Basti, Varanasi, Gorakhpur and even Bihar and Nepal attend it with their wares.

## State Trading

The prices of all commodities increased considerably during the Second World War (1939-45), and in order to arrest their further rise, and to give relief to the consumers, chiefly in the urban centres, the prices of a number of commodities were controlled and the supply of most of them to the consumers was rationed and made through the shops controlled by the government. Some of the more important commodities thus controlled and rationed were food-grains, cloth, matches, drugs and petrol. Various schemes for the rationing of food-grains mainly wheat and its products, rice, sugar, kerosene have however persisted ever since with varying degree of applicability. There were 423 fair-price shops in the district in 1975-76 where wheat, sugar, rice and coarse grains were sold.

## Weight and Measures

In the past local standards of measurement generally resembled those found throughout Avadh but there were some variations peculiar to the district. Measures of length were generally based on the *hath* or cubit, or on the *qadam* or stride. The latter was equivalent to one and a half of the former, and two *qadams* made the *kasi* or double pace, which was roughly equivalent to five feet. Twenty *kasis* made a *badh*, and 100 *badhs* made a *kos*. The latter was thus 10,000 feet or little short of two miles (or 3.2 km.) but the measure was only an approximation. The local *bigha* was a square *badh*, which was equivalent to 1,101 square yards. But in that case also there were local variations. Generally the *bigha* was one-third of the standard measure of 3,025 square yards, and this measure was employed in regular Settlements in the British rule.

Standards of weight also had similar variations of local measures. In the British reign, the seer of 80 *tolas* or 180 grains was generally recognised, but as elsewhere in Avadh the local standard was the *panseri* of five local seers. In this district, as in Bahraich, the *panseri* was calculated as made up of a number of *gandas* of six units and the unit was the Farrukhabadi rupee of 172 grains. It was thus somewhat less than the four-unit *ganda* found in other parts of Avadh and which was derived from the Maddushahi pice, although this unit was unknown in this district. The commonest *panseri* was that of 25 *gandas*, but at Nawabganj it rose

to 26, and at Colonelganj to 28 *gandas*. At Tulsipur *panseri* was reckoned at 152 or 153 Farrukhabadi rupees or between 25 and 26 *gandas*. But after the British took over the administration of the district in 1856 government standards gradually replaced the local standards. There was one strange mode of transaction prevalent in the rural areas of the district. In measuring grain for division between the zamindar and cultivator, no weights were employed, but the process was affected by large baskets, called *pathis*. One such basket could be carried by two men.

The decimal system of weights and measures was introduced in the district with effect from October 1, 1960 when seer was replaced by kilogram. For its proper enforcement an office was opened at Gonda and another at Balrampur in 1971, each under an inspector. Every trader has to submit his weights and measures for inspection, and each such unit is stamped after being found accurate. Camps are held in different *mandis* where traders are able to obtain accurate weights and measures.



सत्यमेव जयते

## CHAPTER VII

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### TRADE ROUTES AND HIGHWAYS

In ancient times the district was connected by the principal trade routes leading to Sravasti which was not only a centre of trade and commerce but a great seat of Buddhist learning and people from far and near flocked to it. The route leading to Rajagriha passed through the south-west of Sravasti and had 12 halts up to the latter place. It passed along the foot of the hills to Kusinagar and Vaisali with only a single crossing of river Ganga at Patna. Anathapindika, the renowned merchant of Sravasti is believed to have used this route while going to Rajagriha. Other routes led to south-west and west from Sravasti. One more important route linking Sravasti with Rajagriha, passed through Varanasi and Saketa. Ghaghara and Rapti rivers have also been useful means of transport from very ancient times. Of the two rivers, Ghaghara was the main trade route which kept the eastern parts of the country in touch with the district. In medieval times the land and river routes of the district were fully utilised by the sultans of Delhi while proceeding to Bengal. During the reign of the Mughals the principal route of the district was from Gonda to Khurasa, leading to the eastern districts. A marked change came over the scene when the district came under the British who undertook the systematic construction of roads and connected the district with State highways. By the year 1903, about 958 km. of roads both metalled and unmetalled had been constructed, the length of the former being about 130 km. These roads were classified into six categories known as first class metalled roads ; second class roads, unmetalled, bridged and drained throughout ; second class roads, unmetalled, partially bridged and drained ; fifth class roads ; cleared, partially bridged and drained and sixth class roads, cleared only : these last being little better than mere cart tracks. With the march of time there was further progress in the construction of roads. In 1925, the length of metalled roads was 254 km and that of unmetalled 716 km. In 1934, the length of metalled and unmetalled roads was about 312 km and 786 km respectively. By 1947, the length of metalled roads had become 342 km. During the period from 1947 to 1963, construction of 144 km of new metalled roads, 40 km of concrete tracks, reconstruction of 168 km of metalled roads managed by local body was completed. Before the Third Five-year Plan the district had 542 km. of metalled roads. In 1960, the public works department maintained 541 km roads of which 493 km were metalled and 48 km unmetalled. The Zila Parishad had under it 568 km of roads of which 21 km were metalled and the rest unmetalled. By the year 1977, the district had 742 km. of metalled roads, whereas the length of unmetalled roads, being approximately 700 km. The metalled roads are maintained by the State Public Works Department and the Zila Parishad while

major portion of unmetalled roads are under the Zila Parishad and State forest department. In the year 1977, the Zila Parishad maintained 25.60 km metalled and 353.80 km unmetalled roads. In 1977-78, the municipal board Gonda had 38 km metalled and 5.46 km unmetalled roads. Municipal board Colonelganj had .5 km. metalled while 5.89 km unmetalled roads. Statement showing different types of roads in the district is given below :

Type of road	Length (in km.)
Zila Parishad Roads (metalled)	25
Zila Parishad Roads (unmetalled)	354
Municipal Board Roads	49
Forest Roads (all unmetalled)	387

### MODES OF CONVEYANCE

Till the advent of the railways and mechanised transport, bullock-carts and pack-animals were the only means of transport in the district, the ox, the camel, and the buffalo being the main beasts of burden. *Palkis* (palanquins) were generally used by moneyed people. With the passage of time, tongas and ekkas came in use, but being slow and costly to maintain they are going off the road and are being replaced by time saving and economical conveyances such as bicycles, cycle-rickshaws and other power-driven vehicles. In 1977-78, 9 tongas, 332 ekkas and 124 rickshaws were registered with the Zila Parishad, while 190 ekkas, 11 tongas, 712 bicycles, 249 *thelas* (hand carts), 84 bullock-carts, and 995 rickshaws were registered with municipal board Gonda. Similarly, 36 bullock-carts, 89 *thelas*, 42 ekkas, 200 bicycles, and 122 rickshaws were registered with municipal board, Colonelganj.

In rural areas the bullock-cart performs useful service being a multipurpose vehicle. It is employed for transporting goods as well as for short journey during pilgrimages, marriages, fairs and festivals.

### Mechanical Vehicular Traffic

Before Independence motor vehicles were a few in number. With the development of highways and inter-village road communication the number of motor vehicles has increased considerably and now they ply on almost all the important roads of the district. The public carriers (trucks) have come in handy for quick transportation of consumer goods, agricultural produce and building material. In 1977, in Faizabad region comprising the districts of Faizabad, Sultanpur, Bahraich and Gonda there were 3,049

motor-cycles, 827 motor-cars, 475 public carriers, 76 taxi-cabs, 317 stage carriages and 21 mini-buses.

#### **U. P. State Road Transport Corporation.**

The transport department of the government introduced passenger services in the district in the year 1948. The organisation relating to the State roadways services was converted into the Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation with effect from June 1, 1972. By the year 1977-78, the roadways buses plied on 13 routes of the district with a total length of 1,979 km. The total number of passengers carried by these buses in 1977-78, was 32,57,888.

In the district about 40 taxis ply on different roads carrying about 1,000 passengers per day. Roadways bus service is available from Gonda to Bahraich, Faizabad, Tanda, Varanasi, Deoria, Colonelganj, Paraspur, Shantinagar, Kharagpur, Tarabganj, and Balrampur. The total number of passengers carried on these routes per day is approximately 12,500. Private bus service is available from Gonda to Sadullanagar, Balrampur to Tulsipur and Tulsipur to Koela, Barhni, Itwa and Harraiya. These private buses carry approximately the same number of passengers as are being carried by the roadways buses.

#### **Railways**

The development of railways in the district dates back to 1884, when rail-line from Mankapur to Gonda and Bahraich and another from Mankapur to Nawabganj was opened. The branch line to Lakarmandi was completed in December of the same year. The main line Mankapur to Gorakhpur was opened to regular traffic in January, 1885. The next step was the construction of the line from Gonda to Jarwal which was opened for passenger traffic on the 1st of February, 1892. The branch line from Gonda to Balrampur and thence to Tulsipur was laid out, the former portion being completed on the 15th of December, 1896, and the latter on 1st of June, 1898. In order to complete the system construction of a line from Tulsipur to Uska Bazar in Basti with a branch of about 20 km. from Gainsari to Jarwa was completed near about the year 1903. The development of the railway system vastly improved the means of transport in the district and gave a great impetus to the export trade.

The railway system which served the area then was styled as Bengal, North Western Railway, which was changed to Tiruhat Railway, and ultimately with the nationalization of railways to North-Eastern Railway. Now it connects Gonda with Lucknow in the west and Gorakhpur on the east. There are 14 railway stations situated on this line. One line from Katra (on the other side of Faizabad) meets Lucknow-Gonda-Gorakhpur line at Mankapur. Further branch lines connect Gonda with Nepalganj and Bahraich. The Gonda to Gorakhpur line passes



through the north-east of the district having seven stations on it. There is one branch line on this route from Gainsari to Jarwa

### TRAVEL FACILITIES

Before the introduction of locomotives and mechanised transport, it was difficult to perform journey in the district. In ancient and medieval times a few sarais provided food and shelter to the travellers as well as resting places for their animals. With the development of roads, public transport and allied amenities like dharamsalas, rest-houses, etc. the situation has greatly improved. The dharamsalas serve a useful purpose by providing shelter to the travellers and pilgrims. A list of dharamsalas and hotels is given in statement I and that of inspection houses, etc. in statement II at the end of the chapter.

### POST AND TELEGRAPH

The history of the post-office dates from the restoration of order after the Freedom Struggle of 1857, when the district dak was first constituted as an independent unit. In the beginning it was maintained solely for administrative convenience. Offices were only opened at the tahsil headquarters and the more important police stations. Mails were carried by mounted police and were distributed by the village chaukidars, who had the right to levy a fee of half an anna for each letter delivered. This system was maintained with some slight modifications up till 1865, when a more comprehensive scheme was introduced throughout Avadh and a regular postal service instituted, the police being relieved of these duties. The number of offices considerably increased, and the district was divided into several postal circles, with an office in each, to act as a local dak distributing and collecting centre. This scheme paved the way for the next progressive step in 1871, when the control of post-office passed to the imperial authorities. As in other districts, however, the absorption of the district dak was conducted gradually and in the beginning of this century a number of offices were under local management. At that time there were five imperial lines served by runners in the district, leading from Gonda to Faizabad. The number of post-offices also considerably increased. Besides the head office at Gonda, there were ten imperial sub-offices from which the mails were distributed to the twenty-nine branch offices. Of the latter, ten were still under the management of the district authorities. During the early years of this century, the post was carried, as far as possible, by rail, but for those parts which lay beyond the reach of the railway, a service of runners, both imperial and district was maintained.

By 1911, the number of post-offices in the district was 46. In 1921, the figure rose to 51 but in 1931, the number remained 46. According to the census report of 1961, the number of post-offices in the district had gone up to 190 and by 1978 it rose to 356. The telegraph offices in rural and urban areas were 17 and 19 respectively and the number of public call offices (telephones) being the same in both the areas.

## STATEMENT I

*Dharamshalas, Hotels, Guest Houses, etc.*

Reference Page No. 131

Village/Town	Name	Management	
TAHSIL BALRAMPUR			
Balrampur	Bhagwati Prasad Dharamshala	Lodging	Private
Balrampur	Tewrain Dharamshala	Lodging	Private
Balrampur	Rani Dharamshala	Lodging	Private
Balrampur	Bhagwatiganj Dharamshala	Lodging	Private
Balrampur	Estate Guest House	Lodging	Private
Maharajganj	Ram Rati Dharamshala	Lodging	Private
Patan (Devi)	Rani Dharamshala	Lodging	Private
Patan (Devi)	Jwala Prasad Dharamshala	Lodging	Private
Tulsipur		Lodging	Private
Tulsipur	Ram Janaki Mandir Dharamshala	Lodging	Private
TAHSIL GONDA			
Gonda	Lohiya Dharamshala	Lodging	Private
TAHSIL TARABGANJ			
Belsar	Maikulal Basantlal Dharamshala	—	Private
Nawabganj	Pathik Niketan	—	Private
Bazar			
Nawabganj	Marwari Dharamshala	—	Private
Bazar			
Sakraura	Maikulal Basantlal Dharamshala	—	Private
TAHSIL UTRAULA			
Mankapur	Rani Dharamshala	Lodging	Private
Utraula	Utraula Dharamshala	Lodging	Private

## STATEMENT II

*Inspection Houses, Dak-bungalows, Rest Houses, etc.*

Reference Page No. 1

Village/Town	Name	Management
<b>TAHSIL BALRAMPUR</b>		
Balrampur	Dak-bungalow	Public Works Department
Barahwa	Dak-bungalow	Public Works Department
Birpur Semra	Dak-bungalow	Forest Department
Gainsari	Dak-bungalow	North Eastern Railway
Janakpur	Dak-bungalow	Public Works Department
Jarwa	Dak-bungalow	Public Works Department
Kuwana	Rest house	Forest Department
Sand Mahra	Dak-bungalow	Public Works Department
Tengnawar	Dak-bungalow	Public Works Department
Tulsipur	Dak-bungalow	Public Works Department
<b>TAHSIL GONDA</b>		
Dhanepur	Inspection house	Public Works Department
Gonda	Inspection house	Public Works Department
Pure Tenduwas	Sundarghat Inspection house	Forest Department
<b>TAHSIL TARABGANJ</b>		
Colonelganj	Inspection house	Public Works Department
Katra Bhagchand	North Eastern Railway Vishramalaya	Railway Department
Nawabganj	Inspection house	Public Works Department
Ramgarh	Rest house	Forest Department
Tarabganj	Inspection house	Public Works Department
Wazirganj	Inspection house	Public Works Department
<b>TAHSIL UTRAULA</b>		
Mankapur	Dak-bungalow	Public Works Department
Sadulla Nagar	Dak-bungalow	Zila Parishad
Sindhauraghat	Rest house	Forest Department
Utraula	Dak-bungalow	Public Works Department

## CHAPTER VIII

### MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

In the census of 1971 economic activities of the people were divided into the main and subsidiary categories. All part-time workers were removed from the category of workers-as indicated in the census of 1961 and were included in the subsidiary category. Consequently the total number of workers in 1971 was less than that of 1961. Workers numbered 3,05,691 only in 1971, which was short of 1,40,431 of the 1961 figure, which was 9,46,122.

All those persons who are economically active but are neither cultivators nor agricultural labourers, may be considered to be engaged in miscellaneous occupations. An idea of their distribution among the major categories of miscellaneous occupations may be had from the following statement

Occupation	Number (in 1971)
Livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantation, orchards, and allied activities	3,314
Mining and quarrying	127
Household industry and manufacturing	24,272
Construction	2,316
Trade and commerce	17,870
Transport, storage and communications	5,940
Service	28,684

#### Public Services

The employment opportunities under the Central and the State Governments and local bodies at different levels have increased considerably because of the growing responsibility of the government towards planned economic and social development of the country. After 1947 several new departments came into being to carry out developmental activities. An idea of employment under government and quasi-government establishments may be had from the following statement :

Type of establishment	No. of establishment		No. of employees			
			1975		1976	
	1975	1976	Men	Women	Men	Women
Central Government	1	1	473	—	518	—
State government	96	96	9,002	372	9,653	450
Quasi-government (Central)	12	12	253	—	240	—
Quasi-government (State)	4	5	749	1	802	2
Local bodies	21	21	5,989	1,110	6,081	1,091

One significant development has been that women are now seen in most government offices and their strength is progressively increasing.

The persons in the employ of the government and local bodies are paid dearness allowance at rates varying in accordance with their salaries. Facilities like regular subscription to provident funds, free medical treatment, free or subsidized residential accommodation, etc., are also available to government servants, and to some extent to the employees of the local bodies. Leave rules have been revised to reduce disparity between temporary and permanent staff. Encashment of earned leave is admissible to the majority of government servants under certain conditions. Other benefits include grant of advances for purchase of conveyance or residential plots and for construction or repairs of houses. Pension rules have been so liberalised as to cater to the needs of the family in the event of death of a government employee. The age for seeking voluntary retirement has been reduced and the quantum of superannuation pension raised. The employees of the State government subscribe to the compulsory group insurance. In the event of the death of the government employees, the members of the family get a lump sum immediately.

The employees are allowed to form associations or unions under the Societies Registration Act of 1860, for the protection and promotion of their service interests. Government servants of the State working in the district are members of the State Employees Joint Council or the Uttar Pradesh Collectorate sub-ministerial Association affiliated to the State level organisation. Those serving under the local bodies are members of the Local Authorities Employees Association and the employees of the State Road Transport Corporation are members of the Employees Road Transport Corporation Joint Council.

There are associations of peons known as Anjuman Chaprasian of Lekhpals known as Lekhpals Sangh affiliated to their State bodies.

#### LEARNED PROFESSIONS

Those in the learned professions e.g. medical, legal, teaching, engineering and arts etc., form the intellectual backbone of society. Consequently, in spite of their small number they influence the public life of the district in a great measure.

#### Education

Teachers, principals and administrative officers of the education department belong to this profession. After Independence the number of such employees has increased considerably.

According to the 1971 census, the teachers numbered 1,357 of whom 1,005 were males and 352 females.

Since 1964, the triple benefit scheme has been extended to the State aided institutions run by the local bodies or private persons bringing the advantages of contributory fund, compulsory life insurance and retirement pension which includes family pension to members of the teaching staff. Payment of salary to teachers working in institutions which are in receipt of grant from the State government, is made through cheques drawn jointly by the manager and a nominee of the district inspector of schools. Teachers' wards are entitled to free tuition up to the intermediate standard. Needy and disabled teachers receive financial help from the National Foundation for Teachers' Welfare Fund, and those suffering from tuberculosis may avail themselves of free facilities of treatment at the Ghetia Sanatorium at Bhowali where a few seats have been earmarked for them.

The teachers of the district are members of one or other association devoted to their welfare. The Madhyamic Shikshak Sangh is meant for teachers of the higher secondary schools, and the Prathmic Shikshak Sangh for their counterparts working in junior and senior Basic schools of the district. These associations are affiliated to the State level apex bodies. Representatives of the teaching staff are borne in managing committees of several institutions and membership of the State legislative council has been thrown open to them through the formation of separate teachers constituencies.

### Medicine

According to the 1971 census 579 persons including 99 women were engaged in public health and medical services rendered by hospitals-allopathic, Ayurvedic and unani nursing homes, maternity and child welfare centres and practitioners of different systems of medicine. Private medical practitioners normally dispense their own medicines. Some of them charge consultation fee, but generally the cost of the medicines supplied during the treatment covers the consultation fee also. The income of such doctors and physicians varies according to their reputation for professional competence and efficiency.

Non-practising allowance is paid to doctors in government service. Higher allowances are admissible to post-graduate physicians and surgeons, and to those possessing superior technical qualifications.

There is a branch of the Indian Medical Association in the district which was established in 1938. The aims and objects of the association are the promotion and advancement of medical and allied services, to bring all the qualified medical men under one banner to supply up-to-date knowledge to the medical profession by refresher courses and journals to devise ways and means of serving the community better to safeguard public health, to treat patients effectively during natural calamities and epidemics and to warn the

public against health hazards. In 1977 there were 24 members in the association.

### **Legal Profession**

This profession includes advocates, pleaders, law assistants and *munshis*, etc. According to the 1971 census, the number of persons engaged in legal services was 250 of whom 5 were females. In 1977 there were 434 legal practitioners (all men) in the district.

The large influx of new entrants to the profession in recent years has made it more competitive.

In 1977, there were five associations of the lawyers of which two were located in Gonda and one each in Utraula, Balrampur, and Tarabganj.

The object of the associations is to help its members in the discharge of their duties and responsibilities, to provide library facility for study and to help the litigant public.

Bar Association, Utraula is very old but the date of its foundation is not known. The number of members of the association was 40 in 1978.

The bar association, civil court, Gonda, was established in 1912. The number of members of the association was 85 in 1978.

District bar association, Gonda was established in the year 1941-42. In 1978 the association had 155 members.

### **Engineering Services**

The persons engaged in engineering services are mostly employed by the government, local bodies and corporations. A few persons also work as engineering contractors and architects.

The engineers play an important role in the developmental activities of the people particularly in the field of agriculture, industry, means of communication, generation and transmission of power.

According to the 1971 census, the district had 35 architects, engineers, technologists and surveyors.

### **Arts**

According to the census of 1971, there were 10 poets, authors, journalists and allied practitioners in the district.

## DOMESTIC AND PERSONAL SERVICES

The persons engaged in such miscellaneous occupations e.g. domestic servants, barbers, washermen and tailors, constitute a very small percentage of the population though they are an important cross-section of society.

### Domestic Servants

In 1971 maids and other house-keeping workers numbered 763 of whom 183 were females. Most of the domestic servants lived with their masters and acted as multipurpose workers. In the rural areas most of them cooked their meals separately but in the urban areas their masters provided them with boarding and lodging, the term of service is of course, being at the pleasure of the employer.

A progressive fall in the availability of domestic servants and the consequent rise in their wage-rates is quite noticeable in the district, as elsewhere in the State. Most of the people are poor but the paradox of want of domestic servant remains possibly because of availability of though seasonal but more lucrative jobs elsewhere, particularly with the big and prosperous farmers in the terai region of the State.

### Barbers, Hairdressers, etc.

According to the census of 1971, the number of barbers, hairdressers and related workers was 495.

In urban areas the old practice of a family barbers has almost become extinct. People prefer to go to dressing saloons rather than avail of the services of a traditional barber. In village, however, the old practice of a family barber is still in vogue and he can be seen performing customary service on certain social ceremonies. He also attends to his *yajman* (patron) at their residences and gets remuneration in kind at the time of harvesting. Inside the ladies quarters the wife of the barber called *nain* does some sort of hair cleaning and hair dressing and massage of women in villages and towns, though in the latter the practice is fast disappearing.

### Washermen

According to the census of 1971, there were 455 launderers, dry cleaners and pressers in the district. Of these 390 were males and 65 females.

Washermen generally attend to the customers at their residence. The launderers on the other hand run regular shops and do not take home delivery. They charge higher rates. Still, because of their quick and efficient service the launderers are gaining popularity over washermen. The laundry owners employ washermen for washing and additional hands for ironing and pressing the clothes.



Of late the synthetic fabrics, which admit of easy and quick washing, are becoming popular with the masses. People especially in cities, prefer to do their own washing and get the clothes pressed at some launderer. This tendency has adversely affected the traditional washermen, but brought profitable business to dry-cleaners and pressers. The washerman in the rural areas has not, however, been much affected and follow the traditional pattern.

### Tailors

In 1971 the tailors, dress-makers, sewers, upholsterers and related workers numbered 1,200 including 14 females. In urban areas the tailors stitch shirts, bushshirts, pants, pyajamas and suits) while those in rural areas generally make, *kurtas* (simple shirts) pyjamas and lahanganas. With the passage of time and change in style of clothes, the *lahanganas* and *kurtas* are being replaced by *salwars* and *kurtas*. The tailoring charges vary from place to place and shop to shop depending upon the stitching skill of the tailor. Generally the tailors in the urban areas are economically better off than their counterparts in the rural areas. In towns and cities the tailors often employ help for sundry works on monthly or contract basis, but such employment is not available in the countryside. Most of the tailors have their own sewing machines and work in their shops and do not ordinarily call on customers.

In the past there used to be family tailors in villages who, besides receiving some cash for tailoring, were also paid in kind at harvesting time. They used to visit their patrons to obtain orders but this custom is fast disappearing.

# CHAPTER IX

## ECONOMIC TRENDS

### LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

#### Workers and Non-Workers

The population of the district was classified as workers and non-workers in the percentage ratio of 45.6 and 54.4 as against the corresponding State ratio of 39.1 and 60.9 in 1961. Among workers 88.1 per cent were cultivators and agricultural labourers. Next came other services claiming 4.2 per cent, followed by cottage industries and other industries 4.1 per cent, and lastly trade and commerce 2.4 per cent. In other categories the number of workers was small (1.2 per cent).

According to the 1961 census, female participation was significant as the percentage of female workers to total workers was 28.4. The extent of female participation in agricultural activities was very high. Of all the women workers 93.2 per cent were employed in agricultural activities, while only 6.8 per cent were engaged in non-agricultural activities.

The largest number of workers in 1961 were in the age-group 15-34, accounting for 46.0 per cent followed by the next higher age-group 35-59, which accounted for 37.5 per cent of workers. The percentage of workers below the age of 15 was 8.2 and that in the age-group 60 and above was 8.3. The proportion of workers in lower and higher age-groups was small and nearly equal.

The following statement gives the distribution of workers in the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors of economy in 1961 and 1971 :

Year	Total population	Total workers	Percentage of workers to total population			
			Agriculture	Non agriculture	Total District	workers U. P.
1961	20,73,237	9,46,122	40.2	5.4	45.6	39.1
1971	23,02,029	8,05,691	31.4	3.5	34.9	30.9

The above statement indicates that though in the decade 1961-71 there was a decrease in the working population of the district, the actual population, however, has gone up. This apparent anomaly was due to a change in the definition of the worker as adopted in the census 1971. Accordingly all the casual and household workers were excluded from the category of workers. Part-time workers were also not enumerated as workers.

In 1971, the workers were classified into nine major categories, the basis of the classification being those economic activities which were similar in respect of processing of raw materials and products. The details of the different categories of workers in 1971 are given below :

Category	No. of workers			Percentage to	
	Total	Male	Female	Total workers	Total population
I Cultivators	5,71,063	5,37,732	33,331	70.90	24.81
II Agricultural labourers	1,52,095	1,14,630	37,465	18.80	6.61
III Livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantation, orchards and allied activities	3,314	3,185	129	0.42	0.10
IV Mining and quarrying	127	125	2	0.02	0.00
V (a) Household industries	14,567	12,925	1,642	3.02	1.05
(b) Other than household industries	9,705	9,211	494		
VI Construction	2,316	2,307	9	0.32	0.10
VII Trade and Commerce	17,870	17,305	565	2.21	0.77
VIII Transport, storage and communications	5,940	5,875	65	0.75	0.26
IX Other services	28,694	26,305	2,389	3.56	1.25
Workers	8,05,691	7,29,600	76,091	100.00	34.95
Non-workers	14,96,338	4,97,848	9,98,490	—	65.05
Total population	23,02,029	12,27,448	10,74,581	—	100.00

The following statement indicates the classification of non-workers : as adopted in the census 1971 :

- (a) Full-time students
- (b) Those attending to household duties
- (c) Dependents and infants
- (d) Retired persons and rentiers
- (e) Persons of independent means
- (f) Beggars and vagrants
- (g) Inmates of penal, mental and charitable institutions
- (h) Others

## GENERAL LEVEL OF PRICES AND WAGES

## Prices

For want of proper and authentic record it is difficult to describe the prices of different commodities in the ancient and medieval periods. Since the barter system was in vogue, the use of money was quite restricted. However, it appears that except in times of calamities (war famine, etc.) the prices were low. In the reign of Akbar<sup>1</sup>, the great 12 maunds (447.8 kg.) of wheat was available for a rupee, while 44 seers (41.0 kg.) of milk cost only a rupee.

Records of prices are available since the British occupation of the district. In the beginning of the nineteenth century prices were far lower than at any time of the British rule; at the same time oscillations were extremely violent. Thus in 1833, a famine year the average rate of all food-grains was 19.5 kg. to the rupee. In 1815 wheat and rice was sold at 93.3 kg. per rupee, barley and gram at 133.4 kg. and 11 katcha maunds (less than 410 kg.) of *Kodom* could be obtained for a rupee. Bad seasons followed and the averages from 1815 to 1819 per rupee were rice 55.9 kg, wheat 43.8 kg., barley 81 seers 75.5 kg. and gram 63.4 kg. Prices appear to have remained low till after the great revolt in 1857. From 1861 onwards rice averaged 24.2 kg., wheat 32.6 kg., barley 50.3 kg., gram 38.2 kg. and *arhar* 27.0 kg. to the rupee. Due to several lean seasons and the development of export trade prices started rising. From 1866 to 1875 the averages were: rice 16.7 kg., wheat 19.6 kg., barley 27.9 kg. and gram 24.2 kg. to the rupee. The prices further increased due to occurrence of natural calamities and about 1886 a marked rise was noticeable throughout the northern India, owing to various external causes, rather than to any failure of harvests. The rise in prices had a direct impact on the agriculture and the cultivated area increased considerably. From 1886 to 1900 the averages per rupee were: rice 12.1 kg., wheat 13.9 kg., barley 19.5 kg., gram 13.6 kg. and maize 20.5 kg. In the first two years of the twentieth century, the rates were: rice 10.2 kg., wheat 14.9 kg., barley 23.2 kg. and gram 21.4 kg.

With the outbreak of the World War I in 1914 frequent changes in prices, including a considerable rise in the cost of food-grains all over the State were witnessed in the succeeding years. For instance in 1916 the price level in the Gonda district was higher by 27 per cent and by 76 per cent in 1928 over the rates prevailing in 1911, when wheat was selling at 12.1 kg. a rupee and *arhar dal* at 12.0 kg.

The world-wide economic depression of 1930's caused continuous and severe strain on markets. Contraction of currency, depression in trade and abundant supplies of grains were considered mainly responsible for the slump. When the economic depression

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1. Srivastawa A. L. : *the Maghal Empire*, p. 560 (Delhi, 1959)

was at its peak in 1933 prices came down alarmingly as compared with those in previous years and were even lower by 4 per cent than those of 1911. In 1933 the rates per rupee were : wheat 11.1 kg., barley 16.7 kg., gram 13.0 kg., *bajra* 13.9 kg., dal *arhar* 11.1 kg. and rice 11.56 kg. The prices tended to stabilise in 1935-36 but started rising again in subsequent years.

After the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939 there was a steep rise in prices, largely due to speculation and profiteering. Other factors like the holding back of stocks in anticipation of further shortages contributed in no small measure to advance the high levels reached in prices. At the beginning of 1940 price control measures that had been put into operation on the outbreak of the war were vigorously enforced by the district authorities. These measures included fixation of prices as modified from time to time, prosecutions in courts of law to check profiteering as also licensing of food-grain dealers. Even then the prices continued to rise and it was experienced that effective control of prices was not possible without control over supplies.

In January, 1943, wheat, rice and certain coarse grains were rationed, followed by total rationing from 1945 to May, 1948. On withdrawal of rationing in 1948, normal sale of food-grains in the markets was restored. However inflation reappeared and total rationing was again introduced in July 1949, which continued till June 1952, when a change in policy with regard to controls was adopted by the government. Open and free markets were restored. The ration card holders, however, continued to receive wheat from fair-price shops, a measure aimed at controlling the price line. Restrictions on the movement of food-grains within the State were withdrawn and their procurement was suspended. The measures had their positive effect, the rise in prices was checked and a downward trend started which continued till 1956 whereafter the prices again started rising.

The following statement shows trend of prices of certain food-grains from 1954 to 1958 :

Commodity	Prices (in Rs) per maund (37.3 Kg.) in January		
	1954	1958	1958
Wheat	15.25	13.50	15.00
Barley	9.00	9.00	11.50
Rice	18.50	15.50	22.00
Gram	11.50	11.00	12.50
Arhar	12.00	14.1	10.50

The fluctuations in prices in the sixties and even in the first four years of the seventies was very much linked with border war

with China in 1962, and the two armed conflicts with Pakistan in 1965 and 1971. However, it was only after the year 1971 that the prices rose at an alarming rate and an over-all shortage of commodities was felt. The following statement gives the prices of certain commodities in August 1960 and August 1970 :

Commodity	Prices (in Rs per kg.)	
	August 1960	August 1970
Rice	0.74	1.45
Wheat	0.55	0.86
Gram	0.40	0.89
Arhar (dal)	0.56	1.55
Maize	0.44	0.73

In the seventies of this century prices rose considerably from 1973 to mid-1975. The purchasing power of rupee, as computed on the basis of the consumer price index with 1949 as base kept on steadily declining from 99.0 paise in 1960 to 80.6 paise in 1965 ; 44.6 paise in 1970 and 36.0 paise in 1973. The value of rupee further decreased by the middle of 1975. Thereafter the prices, however, started falling and this trend continued in 1976 also, as the following statement would indicate :

Commodity	Prices (in Rs per kg.)				
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Rice	1.37	1.61	2.11	2.05	1.37
Wheat	0.93	1.12	1.58	1.38	0.94
Gram	1.03	1.47	2.07	1.85	1.31
Barley	0.66	0.88	1.27	1.04	0.57
Jaggery	1.72	1.88	1.90	1.99	2.08
Sugar	3.16	3.72	4.45	4.68	4.43
Ghi	10.97	13.71	16.64	17.93	18.00
Mustard oil	5.59	6.95	10.26	7.29	6.23
Salt	0.25	0.22	0.30	0.25	0.23

### Wages

In the past, and even for a number of years under the British rule, wages were often paid in kind. A small quantity of coarse grains together with some *gur* (jaggery) comprised the daily wage of a labourer. Another method to pay the labour in the rural areas was to give some land and allow him to retain a portion of the harvest. Further the system of *sewak* labour was also in vogue in the district. The *sawak* was a member of economically and socially backward castes such as Koris, Chamars or Lonias who for a fixed sum of money, almost invariably required for marriage expenses, bound himself in serfdom to the zamindar till the repayment of the loan—a contingency which hardly ever occurred in actual experience. The consideration varied with the necessities of

the borrower, but rarely exceeded one hundred or was generally less than twenty rupees. A person in that position received the ploughman's customary share in the produce supplemented by contributions from his master, which were converted at the market rate and added to the principal. Many a labourer used to run away to distant places in order to avoid the payment of debt as the debt was not recognised by law. A modified form also existed whereby the labourer hired himself out for a year, in consideration of a small payment and the customary dole. Where this system was not vogue the labourer received a cash wage of about Rs 2.50 a month.

The first wage census was held in the State in 1906. A fair comparison of rural wages for skilled and unskilled labour may be made from the data available in the wage censuses that followed.

Year	Wage (per day in paise)	
	Skilled worker	Unskilled worker
1906	25	10
1911	28	12
1916	31	14
1928	55	20
1934	37	12
1939	32	14
1944	114	40

The wages for the first time increased in the wake of the First World War (1914-18), and the trend continued till the end of twenties. With the economic depression which set in after 1929 the wages, in tune with prices, tended to decline. However, the fluctuations in wages were not as steep as in the case of prices. Even in 1945-46, at the end of the Second World War, the daily wages were Rs 1.20 for a skilled worker and Rs 0.45 for an unskilled worker. In the fifties the daily wage for a skilled worker ranged between Rs 1.00 to Rs 1.25 and for an unskilled worker Rs 0.45 to Rs 0.50.

In the villages a large number of persons work as weeders, reapers, carpenters, blacksmiths, tillers and labour for "transplantation, etc. They generally work for seven to eight hours a day and are paid Rs 5.0 a day in cash. In addition there are others, like barbers and washermen, who render professional service. Carpenter and blacksmiths are paid about Rs. 8.0 per day.

In the urban centres of the district the wage earners are provided with a variety of jobs, and the skilled workers receive higher wages. An idea may be had regarding the average wages of skilled and unskilled workers in the urban town centre of Gonda in 1976 :

Occupation	Unit of quotation	Average wage
Gardener	Per month-whole time	Rs 200.00
	Per month-part time	Rs 20.00
Carpenter	Per day	Rs 10.00
Blacksmith	Per day	Rs 10.00
Tailor	Per cotton shirt (full sleeves)	Rs 3.00
	Per cotton blouse	Rs 3.00
	Per woollen suit	Rs 100.00
	Per cotton suit	Rs 40.00
Midwife	Per delivery	Rs 15.00
Barber	Per shave	Rs 0.35
	Per hair-cut	Rs 300.00
Driver (motor or truck)	Per month	Rs 1.00
Porter	Per maund (37.3 kg.) of load carried for a mile (1.6 km.)	Rs 1.50
Casual labourer	Per day	Rs 5.00
Domestic servant	Per month without board	Rs 125.00
	Per month with board	Rs 60.00
Scavenger	Per month for cleaning of latrine twice daily	Rs 6.00

### GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT

#### Employment Trends

As a result of the implementation of different developmental schemes more jobs, particularly in the public sector have been created. An idea may be had regarding the employment opportunities which were available in the period from 1972 to 1976 :

Year	Number of establishments			Number of employees		
	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
1972	96	114	210	7,113	17,543	24,656
1973	95	119	214	7,735	17,738	25,473
1974	107	124	231	7,935	18,368	26,303
1975	110	134	244	8,023	18,439	26,462
1976	110	135	245	7,664	18,888	26,552

The number of persons and establishments given in the foregoing statement for 1975 and 1976 when further divided according to their work were as follows :



Nature of activity	No. of establishments		No. of employees	
	1975	1976	1975	1976
Agriculture, livestock, forestry, fishing and hunting	11	13	1,300	1,299
Manufacturing	26	25	4,792	4,593
Construction	4	4	459	758
Electricity, gas, and sanitary services	6	6	1,050	1,031
Trade and commerce	11	11	106	97
Transport, storage, and communications	7	7	532	564
Services	15	15	478	465
Activities not adequately described elsewhere	164	164	17,745	17,745
	244	245	28,462	26,552

### Employment of Womens

As compared to the private sector a large number of women were employed in the public sector. The total number of such women employees in the district was 1 727 in 1976. The following statement gives the data relating to the employment of women in private and public sectors :

	1976
No. of women employees in public sector	1,543
Percentage of women employees (of total employees) in public sector	8.20
No. of women employees in private sector	184
Percentage of women employees (of total employees) in private sector	2.40

The percentage of women workers to total women workers in various occupations in 1976 was as follows :

Category	Percentage
Education	64.70
Medical and public health	19.50
Services	15.60
Manufacturing	0.20
	100.00

As many as 10,513 persons were registered with the employment exchange, Gonda in December, 1976 for employment. Number of employment seekers according to educational standard as on December 31, 1976 is shown in the following statement :

Educational level	Men	Women	Total
Post-graduate	53	2	55
Graduate	1,192	81	1,273
Intermediate	3,182	38	3,220
Matriculate	2,678	47	2,725
Below matriculation and illiterate	3,082	158	3,240
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,187</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>10,513</b>

In the last quarter of 1976 only 174 vacancies were notified to the employment exchange. Of these 100 vacancies were under State Government, 12 under the quasi-government organisations, and 62 under the private sector.

### Employment Exchange

The employment exchange at Gonda was established in 1949 to provide job-assistance to the unemployed, and to meet the requirements of the employers by providing suitable candidates. The employment market information scheme was introduced in 1961. Every employer in the private and public sector of the district has to inform the exchange regarding the number of persons already employed in its establishment, and notify the number of vacancies in each quarter of a year. However, such units as employ less than five persons are not required to do so. The data thus collected by the exchange, enables it to plan in advance and provide quick service both to the employers and the employees. The exchange also undertakes the analysis of data and general public. The following statement gives an idea of the work done by the employment exchange, Gonda in five years beginning with 1972 :

Year	Vacancies notified by employers	Number of persons registered for employment	No. on live-register	No. of persons provided with employment
1972	695	8,764	8,538	482
1973	1,050	8,424	8,870	1,000
1974	287	6,811	7,891	259
1975	282	6,805	8,247	275
1976	429	8,147	10,513	204

## NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The subject of national planning and rural development received little attention under the British rule and whatever efforts were made in this direction were merely the outcome of political expediency and confined to activities such as sanitation, expansion of agriculture and providing irrigational facilities. When the first Congress government came into office in 1937, schemes of rural development were introduced in certain villages. The scope of the scheme was later expanded and a rural development association was constituted at the district level. Efforts were made to improve rural hygiene and communications (repair and construction of roads) to establish libraries and to construct night schools for adults. However in 1939, with the declaration of the Second World War, the Congress government went out of office, and the schemes were shelved.

In 1947, the rural development association was replaced by the district development association. It had a non-official chairman and the district co-operative officer acted as its secretary. With the setting up of the Planning Commission of India in 1950 development activities took a stride. In 1951, the Commission presented the First Five-year Plan (1951–56) in which agriculture including irrigation and power was given priority. A department for planning and development was also opened and in 1952 the district development association was replaced by the district planning committee, with the district magistrate as its ex-officio chairman, and the district planning officer as its secretary. It had a number of sub-committees for the preparation and execution of Plan programmes. The committee was only an advisory body.

In the year 1952, for the first time community development blocks were opened in the State but in the district first development block was opened at Itiathok on January 26, 1954 followed by several more such blocks.

After the completion of the First Five-year Plan in March, 1956, the Second Five-year Plan came into force with effect from April 1, 1956. The scope of the Second Five-year Plan was enlarged to include industrialisation and it was decided to divide the whole district into a number of blocks for implementation of the various schemes.

The First and Second Five-year Plans were executed by the district planning committee. In 1958 the Antarim Zila Parishad was created by amalgamating the district planning committee and the district board. For successful implementation of the planning and development programmes a three-tier system of local-self government was adopted from December, 1961. Accordingly at the village level a village Panchayat, a Kshettra Samiti at the block level, and the Zila Parishad at the district level were constituted. For the co-ordinated execution of different plan schemes, the resources of the agriculture, co-operative, animal husbandry, pancha-

yat raj and some other departments and organisations have been pooled and put under the district planning officer (now district development officer). Some particulars about the development blocks which are all in stage II are given in the following statement :

Development block	Tahsil	Year of establishment	Population in 1971	No. of Gaon Sabhas	No. of Nyaya Panchayats
Spaidih	Gonda	1.4.59	94,488	119	8
Katra Bazar	"	1.4.58	83,537	86	14
Halhamau	"	2.10.62	68,399	81	14
Jhajhari	"	1.7.57	92,913	104	11
Pandri Kapal	"	2.10.72	49,751	69	7
Itiathok	"	26.1.54	77,604	98	10
Mujehna	"	2.10.72	83,375	66	10
Kiratganj	Utraula	2.10.72	70,903	79	10
Utraula	"	20.10.56	65,168	77	8
Rodas Buzurg	"	1.4.61	62,569	46	8
Rehra Bazar	"	2.10.72	90,743	89	10
Wamanjot	"	1.4.59	97,329	92	10
Mankapur	"	2.10.54	98,440	114	12
Chapia*	"	1.10.59	90,867	98	10
Colonelganj	Tarabganj	1.4.62	74,560	82	9
Paraspur	"	20.10.53	1,06,556	83	11
Belsar	"	2.10.72	84,767	59	10
Tarabganj	"	1.10.59	77,828	88	9
Wazirganj	"	2.10.72	76,710	85	11
Nawabganj	"	1.10.61	79,758	84	10
Harraiya	"	"	"	"	"
Satgharwa	Balrampur	2.10.72	1,09,555	120	14
Balrampur	Balrampur	2.10.56	1,29,524	125	17
Tulsipur**	"	2.10.62	1,07,970	107	12
Gasadi	"	2.10.62	99,938	124	13
Pachperwa	"	1.10.61	96,930	108	11

\*Headquarters at Maskanwa

\*\*Headquarters at Kawapur

In the Third Five-year Plan (1961-66) the emphasis was laid on intensive development, with a view to make the economy of the district self-reliant and self-generating. Special programmes such as those relating to the use of improved varieties of seed, intensive and improved methods of cultivation and crop protection measures were also introduced.

The Third Five-year Plan was followed by the yearly plans which were introduced in the year 1967, with the following broad objectives :

(1) A growth rate of 5 percent in the agricultural sector and 8 to 10 percent in industry.

(2) A growth rate of 6.9 per cent in the production of food-grains to ensure self-sufficiency.

(3) To maximise employment opportunities and to redress imbalances arising out of population growth and inadequate expansion of agricultural production by reducing the fertility rate to 25 per thousand.

The Fourth Five-year Plan came into effect from April 1, 1969, the main objectives of the Plan being to increase national income and employment opportunities on one hand and equitable distribution of income and wealth on the other. It sought to provide land to the landless and reduce big holdings of big farmers.

As a result of the use of high yielding varieties of seed as also of fertilisers, adoption of scientific methods of cultivation, and intensive programme of minor irrigation works, production of food-grains in the Fifth Five-year Plan which was introduced in the year 1974, increased considerably. The Small Farmers Development Agency and the Agricultural Finance Corporation have implemented schemes, which have influenced the economy of the district to a great extent.

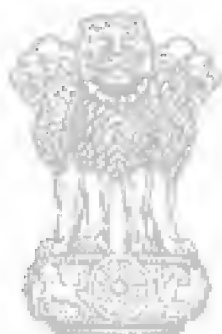
### Standard of Living

The standard of living of the people is dependent on two factors namely the total income of a family, and its expenditure pattern. The per capita income of an average farmer has increased, with the increase in agriculture production and the high prices of food-grains in the last 25 years, but cost on inputs such as implements, fertilisers, irrigation works and seeds has also increased. Therefore only big farmers owning larger holdings could spend some of their income on recreation, better clothes, household equipment, transport and education. There are large holdings in the Tarai region which is an excellent paddy-growing area. The average holdings is small in the *Uparhar* and *Tarhar* regions. In addition the risk of cultivation is generally high for the *Tarhar* area because of floods in the river Ghaghara and its tributaries.

The extent to which planning and development has enhanced the standard of living cannot possibly be enumerated with precision. However a comparative study of the means of communications in the forties, sixties and seventies of this century, makes it clear that longer distances can be covered in shorter time, unlike previous decade when ponies, ekkas and tongas were the main means of transport. A large number of metalled roads have eliminated dust in dry season and mud in the rainy season. Transistors and radios appear to be available in every village. Even garments which were exclusively used in the urban areas are being used in the villages also. Garments made of chemical fibres, mixed with cotton are popular and in use in all parts of the district.

No doubt infra-structure of the district has been developed. but the industrial backwardness and great increase in the population of the district are two major factors that have considerably retarded the economic progress of the district. In the Fifth Five-year Plan the main objectives were to eliminate poverty and to achieve economic self-sufficiency. Great stress has been laid on family planning, education, nutrition, rural industrialisation and the modernisation of agriculture. Irrigation facilities have increased manifold.

A rough estimate about the rise in the standard of living of the people may be had from the power-consumption pattern of the district. The per capital consumption was 0.9 units in 1960, 3.9 units in 1970, and this has gone up to 7.9 in 1977.



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# CHAPTER X

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

### COMMISSIONER

Soon after the annexation of Avadh in 1856 by the government of the East India Company, the area covered by the present district, which was till then part of the district of Bahraich, was reconstituted into a separate district of Gonda. Now, it is one of the districts of Faizabad Division under the charge of a commissioner with headquarters at Faizabad.

The post of commissioner was created in 1929, and was known as commissioner of revenue and circuit. Earlier the commissioner enjoyed entire administrative authority within his jurisdiction, but gradually it came to be shared by other officers due to the creation of numerous departments at the district and the regional levels. However, the commissioner still continues to function as a vital link between the districts under him and the government. He represents the government at the divisional level. He generally supervises the administrative as well as planning and development work, in the Division. Though the commissioner does not have to do much judicial work, yet on the appellate side he still hears appeals and revisions under the U. P. Tenancy Act, the U. P. Land Revenue Act, the Municipalities Act, the U. P. Zamindari Abolition Act, the Arms Act, and the Anti Goonda Act, etc. He is assisted by an additional commissioner (at Faizabad) in the disposal of revenue case work. He is Regional Transport Authority and exercises extensive powers over the local bodies namely Zila Parishad, municipal boards, notified and town area committees.

### Deputy Commissioner/District Magistrate

The district is the most important unit of administration in which the government comes into intimate contact with the people. While in some districts the civil head of the district is called Collector, in the district of Gonda he is called Deputy Commissioner. He is also the district magistrate. For other multifarious duties he is also known as the district officer. He is assisted by an additional district magistrate-cum-additional collector and five deputy collectors.

The deputy commissioner is responsible for the fair and prompt collection of land revenue. He keeps constant watch over the conditions of the crops and peasantry and handles situations arising out of emergencies such as floods, famines, droughts, fires, etc. He organises relief operations which include conditions justifying recommendations to government regarding suspension or remission of land revenue, advance of agricultural loans known as

**taqavi** to relieve distress and enable the sufferers to purchase seeds, agricultural implements, etc, in order to assist the peasantry to tide over difficult period. Maintenance of up-to-date land records, collection of revenue, realization of government loans and dispensation of justice both under certain sections of Criminal Procedure Code as well as revenue laws continues to be his responsibility. In addition, in his capacity of district officer, as he is often called, he performs multifarious duties. If there is an assignment which does not relate to any particular department or that department which has not field staff of its own, it is quite often entrusted to him. As district officer he is also responsible for equitable distribution of commodities, which are under informal or statutory control and in this work he is assisted by the district supply officer, who functions as the district rent control and eviction officer as well. Being the ex-officio district election officer, he is responsible for all arrangement regarding elections to the Lok Sabha, Vidhan Sabha, and local bodies.

The district officer is also the ex-officio president of the soldiers', sailors' and airmen's board which looks after the welfare of ex-servicemen as well as families of serving soldiers of the district. He is the licensing authority for arms and ammunitions. A comparatively new and important duty since the middle of this century has been the direction in the planning and development activities in the district. The district development officer, designated as additional district magistrate (development), who looks after these activities, works under his control.

As district magistrate he maintains law and order in the district, keeps watch on the general crime situation, and ensures that no disturbances occur. During any such situation the entire magisterial and police administration is integrated under his authority. Appraisal of public opinion and prevention of explosive situations are some other important duties assigned to him.

### **Subdivisional Officer**

For purpose of effective administration, collection of land revenue and for maintaining law and order the district of Gonda has been divided into four subdivisions namely Balrampur, Utraula, Gonda, and Tarabganj, each forming a tahsil of the same name.

The deputy commissioner is assisted by five deputy collectors belonging to the U. P. Civil Service (Executive Branch), four of whom work as subdivisional officers, one for each subdivision. Their duties are similar to those of the district officer but confined only to their subdivisions.

### **Tahsildar**

The local officer in immediate charge of a tahsil, designated as tahsildar, is an officer with gazetted status and is subordinate to the subdivisional officer. Formerly, he was vested with the



powers of a magistrate of second class but since the enforcement of amended Cr. P. C. in April, 1974 he functions as executive magistrate only though he has been invested with the powers of magistrate of first class in connection with certain specified duties. Further, in addition to being an assistant collector, first class, he presides at his tahsil offices and court. Each tahsil has a subtreasury with the tahsildar as subtreasury officer. The tahsildars are assisted in their work by a few non-gazetted deputies, called *naib tahsildars* and a number of subordinate staff.

The four registrar *kanoongoes*, one in each tahsil, are entrusted with compilation and maintenance of land records. Their work is periodically checked by the *sadar kanoongo* and inspected by the *naib tahsildars*, tahsildars and subdivisional officers.

At the lower level of the tahsil are parganas and the field officials of the revenue department working there are supervisor *kanoongoes*, who are also known in local dialect as *girdawar kanoongoes*. A supervisor *kanoongo* is in charge of one or more parganas and his duties are confined mostly to supervision of the land records and other work of *lekhpai* in his circle, being last link in the above chain.

He is primarily responsible for preparing and maintaining the land records relating to the villages in his circle, besides collecting statistics relating to agriculture, natural calamities, etc., and helping in development scheme.

#### SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE

The superintendent of police is the executive head of the district police force. He is responsible for work, efficiency and discipline of the police force, maintenance of peace, law and order and detection and investigation of crime. In his task he is assisted by four deputy superintendents of police and subordinate staff consisting of circle inspectors, reserve inspector, sub-inspectors, head constables and constables, the details being given in chapter XII. For efficient police administration the district is divided into four police circles, each comprising six police stations, under the charge of a deputy superintendent of police.

#### DISTRICT JUDGE

The judiciary of the district is headed by the district and sessions Judge, under the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad. He is the highest authority in the district for the administration of justice in civil and criminal matters. There are four additional district judges and civil judge, three *munsif* magistrates and four additional *munsif* magistrates in the district, one *munsif* is headquartered at Balrampur while the rest stationed at Gonda. Besides there are one chief judicial magistrate, four judicial magistrates, including one for railway and two special judicial magistrates.

### OTHER DISTRICT LEVEL OFFICERS

The following are the district level officers, their designations disclosing the nature of the work they perform :

Assistant Registrar Co-operative Societies  
 Assistant Director Fisheries  
 Basic Siksha Adhikari  
 Chief Medical Officer  
 Executive Engineer (Irrigation)  
 Executive Engineer (P. W. D.)  
 District Agriculture Officer  
 District Cane Officer  
 District Industries Officer  
 District Employment Officer  
 Divisional Forest Officer (North)  
 Divisional Forest Officer (South)  
 District Harijan and Social Welfare Officer  
 District Horticulture Officer  
 District Information Officer  
 District Inspector of Schools  
 District Live-stock Officer  
 District Statistics Officer  
 District Excise Officer  
 District Panchayat Raj Officer  
 District Probation Officer  
 District Plant Protection Officer  
 Director of Project  
 Income Tax Officer  
 Joint Director Chakbandi I  
 Joint Director Chakbandi II  
 Sales-tax Officer  
 Soil Conservation Officer  
 Superintending Engineer (Irrigation)  
 Superintendent Posts and Telegraph

### CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES

#### Indian Posts and Telegraph Department

Gonda is the divisional headquarters of Gonda postal division which comprises Bahraich and Gonda districts. It is administered by a superintendent post-offices at Gonda. There is a head post-office in Gonda city and 356 other post-offices in the district.

#### Income-tax Department

The Gonda circle of income-tax is under the charge of an income-tax inspector. The highest authority is the commissioner of income tax at Allahabad. The administrative control is vested with the inspecting assistant commissioner of income-tax Gorakhpur. Appeals arising against the assessment orders lie with the appellate assistant commissioner of income-tax, Faizabad.

## Central Excise Department

The work relating to central excise in the district is looked after by a superintendent, central excise. For administration of central excise laws the district has been divided into five ranges, each under the charge of an inspector, who is designated as range officer.

**National Savings**—The main objects of this organisation are combating of inflation, encouragement of small savings. The district of Gonda is included in Allahabad Division under an assistant regional director with headquarters at Allahabad. In the district the work is looked after by a district savings officer under the district magistrate. Broadly the duties of the district savings officer are to inculcate among the people a habit of thrift, encourage savings and secure investment in different small savings schemes such as post-offices, saving-bank accounts, cumulative time deposit, national saving certificates and prize bonds, etc.



## CHAPTER XI

### REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

#### Fiscal History

The fiscal history of the district dates back to antiquity as it formed a part of the kingdom of Kosala. The rulers of the period considered land revenue as the chief source of state income. Apart from peasant proprietorship, the state also owned land, which yielded a substantial revenue to the royal treasury.<sup>1</sup> The land tax was generally one-sixth of the produce and was given mostly in kind in lieu of which the king assured safety of life and property of his subjects. Besides land revenue, taxes from commercial goods, state owned industries and properties were other sources of state income. During the reign of successive Hindu kings the traditional one-sixth of the total produce continued to be realized from the cultivators.<sup>2</sup>

The Turkish sultans of Delhi appear to have effected the conquest of the region now covered by the district which was included in the government of Avadh and later in that of Bahraich. But this remote and forest-covered tract seems to have been left to itself, probably because the local chieftains were not sufficiently powerful to attract attention. It was after the accession of Akbar that the revenue administration of the district was brought under one supreme political authority.

During the reign of Akbar the district was, for the purpose of revenue administration, divided amongst the three sirkars of Avadh Bahraich and Gorakhpur in the subah of Avadh. The Bahraich sirkar contained eleven *mahals*, and about 18 lakh bighas of land and paid about 2.4 crores dams as revenue<sup>3</sup>, (1 dam being equal to 1/40 of a rupee). Most of the *mahals* of this sirkar lay within the limits of Bahraich district, but Hisampur probably extended into Gonda and included most of *margana* Paharapur (tahsil Gonda) and part of Guwarich.<sup>4</sup> The eastern boundary of another *mahal* Bahrah too was accurately determined and probably it extended into Balrampur.<sup>5</sup> But the *mahal* Kharonsa probably a corruption of Khurasa, lay within the Gonda district and apparently comprised all the land between the Terhi and the Kuwana rivers, stretching as far east as the Utraula boundary.<sup>6</sup>

The sirkar of Gorakhpur included 24 *mahals* and comprised the whole of the present district of Gorakhpur and Basti as well as the bulk of Gonda. It had 2,44,284 bighas of land and paid

1. Pathak, Vishuddhanand : *History of Kosala upto the Rise of the Mauryas*, (Varanasi, 1963), pp. 342-343
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 343-344
3. Abul Fazl. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Eng. trans : by H. S. Jarret. Vol. II, p. 187
4. Nevill, H. R. : *Gonda : A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1921), p. 142
5. *Ibid.*
6. *Ibid.*, pp. 142-143

11,926,790 dams as revenue.<sup>1</sup> Of Gonda the *mahal* of Utraula then comprised the parganas of Utraula, Sadullah Nagar, and Burapara and their subdivision did not occur till many years after, when it was effected by a partition between different members of Utraula house. The cultivated area was 32,052 bighas and the revenue 13,97,367 dams.<sup>2</sup> North of Utraula and Khurasa lay the vast undefined *mahal* of Ramgarh Gauri, which extended to the forest of Tulsipur, (tahsil Tarabganj) then styled as Daman-i-Koh. The mahal was held by Sombansi Rajputs. Very little of this wide tract was then reclaimed, the cultivated area being only 10,762 bighas and the revenue 4,85,943 dams. South of Utraula lay the *mahal* of Rehli, now in pargana Nawabganj of tahsil Tarabganj. This *mahal* included approximately the parganas of Nawabganj, Mahadeva and part of Mankanur.<sup>4</sup> It was held by Bisens and the cultivated area was 33,184 bighas and the revenue 16,18,074 dams. Babhnipair already was a separate *mahal* but it probably was somewhat larger than at present, comprising part of Mankanur and extending into the Basti district. The zamindars were Rajputs, but the clan is not specified.<sup>5</sup> The *mahal* had but 6,688 bighas under cultivation assessed at 4,14,194 dams.<sup>6</sup>

The only other remaining *mahal* of Gonda was Guwarich or Gawarchak as it is written in the *Ain-i-Akbari* and this for some reason or other belonged to the sirkar of Avadh possibly because it was the grazing ground for the subahdar's cattle from which the name is said to have been derived. This *mahal* included the present Guwarich and most of Digsir (tahsil Tarabganj) and possibly Paharapur too (tahsil Gonda).<sup>7</sup> It was owned by Raikwars and the cultivated area was 79,158 bighas and the revenue 37,73,417 dams.<sup>8</sup> The total land revenue assessed on the district was thus 90,04,046 dams or roughly Rs 2,25,100 on a cultivated area of 1,18,960 acres. The revenue was based on a crop rate, and it was admittedly too high, for in subsequent years the amount was reduced by one half or even more. In theory one-third of the produce went to the crown, and the demand stood in a nearer relation to rent than to revenue, but even so the amount was very large for a district in so obviously backward a state. From the days of Akbar to the rule of the Nawab vizirs of Avadh, and local chiefs managed the collection of revenue in their respective estates. It is said that after Akbar, the ruling clans of the district presumably accepted the paramountcy of the Mughals and paid a fixed amount of revenue to the imperial treasury. From the beginning of 18th century there was a tendency towards the growth of semi-feudal interests. At this time the fate of peasantry came directly in the hands of farmers of revenue or of the king's assignee, who usually exacted the maximum that he could. Thus the taluk or dependancy came to take the place of the assignment as the most prominent agrarian institution. How-

1. Abul Fazl : *op. cit.*, p. 186

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*, p. 187

4. *Ibid.*, p. 186

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

7. Nevill H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 144

8. Abul Fazl : *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 184

ever, a great and far-reaching change came over the scene in 1721 when Saadat Khan became vizir of Avadh. The governor's preliminary step was to reduce the authority of the local Hindu rajas as elsewhere in the subah of Avadh, to ensure the payment of revenue regularly. To accomplish this task he enforced a system under which a graded series of officers for collection of land revenue were appointed. The first of these was the *chakledar* who was placed in charge of a *chakla*, i.e. an area larger than a modern district. Under him were officers called *amils*, who held smaller areas, about the size of a *tahsil*. Below the *amils* were *kanungos*, who were entrusted with the task of keeping the entire account of a tract about the size of a *pargana*, and supply all information necessary for realisation of revenue from the cultivators. Besides, there was a semi-military officer designated as *nazim*, whose task was to coerce habitual defaulters as also guard the treasure. Under the new system the revenue was realised fairly, regularly, difficulty being felt only in areas which were either remote or inaccessible due to forests or rivers. Often the local chiefs were not prompt in payment and remained in arrears. The system also did not work satisfactorily in areas where the local potentates were powerful enough to hold on their own and ignore the officers of the nawab vizir. The system was very soon changed. Big tracts of land were leased to the local rajas for a stipulated period on payment of premium, the lessees having rights of sale or repurchase without being obliged to make any further payment to the nawabs. With the introduction of farming system the office of *chakledar* fell into disuse and was abolished. The position by the lessee Hindu rajas, thus for all practical purposes, became that of a tributary rather than a subject. Naturally, therefore, when after the battle of Baxar in 1764 the power of the nawabs declined and the rajas started asserting their independence.

The old fiscal arrangements of Akbar's time had been maintained in one form or the other till the days of Asaf-ud-daula. From 1773 to the annexation of Avadh in February, 1856, the fiscal history belongs rather to the general history of the district. Prior to annexation the district was united with Bahraich and was under the management of a single revenue official and it was not till the advent of British rule that Gonda became a separate charge and the next phase of the fiscal history started.

The first assessment of revenue was based on the figures for the last three years of Nawabi rule, but it was only a makeshift and was intended to be a temporary arrangement, until the formal decision of the claims could be taken in hand a scientific settlement made on the lines of those which had been effected in the North-Western Provinces. At annexation the district was in very disturbed state owing to maladministration. The condition of things, however, varied greatly in different parts. Time was necessary for recovery and a settlement for a long period was nearly impossible.

### First Summary Settlement

The first summary assessment was made in 1856 after the annexation. The records relating to this Settlement are said to have been destroyed during the freedom struggle of 1857.

## Second Summary Settlement

The second summary assessment was completed in 1869, and the method employed was practically the same as before and the old records were used as far as they were available. The total demand for the district was estimated to be Rs 9,62,401. The revenue was very light in its incidence, but this was unavoidable in the absence of a survey and the preparation of village records. During the currency of this Settlement the district experienced general prosperity and it was soon recognised that it would be able to pay with ease a higher amount of land revenue. A regular Settlement therefore was considered necessary.

## First Regular Settlement

The Settlement began in October, 1868, and was completed in 1872. The new revenue was declared immediately after it had been fixed, but, it could not be realized before 1873-74. The reason lay in the acute distress experienced in the district from 1870 to 1873 due to natural calamities. In the first two years southern parganas suffered acutely from floods while in 1873-74 a partial famine visited the tract north of the Kuwana and violent hailstorms did great damage in the southern half of the district. The revenue, so fixed under the Settlement could not be collected without adversely affecting the landowners. The deputy commissioner, therefore, desired a through revision partly, due to defects in the system originally adopted for arriving at fair assets. For achieving this the settlement officer employed four methods. In the first place he corrected the village rent-rolls by the application of ascertained rates to the assumption area; but in so doing he failed to take into account the large proportion held by high caste tenants and on grain rents, as he applied the rents paid in cash by ordinary low caste cultivators to lands for which rents had to be assumed. Secondly, he deducted from the rent-rolls village soil rates on lands held by ordinary cultivators and from these obtained average circle rates, which were applied to certain areas. In the third place he fixed soil rates for each pargana, and applied a separate assumed rent rate to the area demarcated under each class of soil; and lastly, he framed a crop estimate by dividing the crops into classes according to the value of their produce, assuming separately for each kind of crop the value of that portion which was paid as rent, and applying this assumed value to the areas occupied by the several classes. In actual practice, however, reliance was placed mainly on an assumed general or current rate applied to the whole area and the actual condition of individual villages was not considered to a large extent. The result was that a revenue of Rs 16,96,178 or nearly 76 per cent more than the summary assessment was fixed.

## The Revision

The revision operation consisted of a complete resettlement of Mahadewa, and elsewhere of summary reductions from the first assessment, determined by an examination of rent-rolls. As was inevitable in a revision of this character, the principal relief was

given to the smaller proprietors, who were experiencing signs of distress. The assessment on the villages of the larger proprietors was often severe, and it was not till the growth of trade resulting from improved means of communication and the general rise of prices which commenced in 1886, that the actual assets of many villages rose to the level of those assumed for the purposes of assessment. Balrampur and Tulsipur were left untouched, and in many parganas the revised demand was made progressive and the enhancement spread over a period of ten years. The result of the revision was an ultimate revenue of Rs 15,26,487 or nearly 60 per cent in excess of the summary demand.

Concurrently with the assessment a record-of-rights was also prepared and all conflicting claims with regard to land were decided by the Settlement courts which lasted from 1868 to 1876. During this time it was hardly possible to impose the new demand, as the talukdars were unable to realize rents from their under proprietors, who could not be compelled to pay any rent at all till the amount due had been judicially declared. In all, 23,627 claims were preferred, and a large number was withdrawn or declared out of court. No fewer than 18,927 claims were heard. The number of successful claims being 10,829.

During the currency of the Settlement the revenue was collected with no more than the ordinary difficulties arising from refractory zamindars in unfavourable seasons. The severity of the assessment probably accelerated if it was not primarily responsible for the decay of several of the small proprietors, though the indebtedness of many of the talukdars was mainly due to other causes. During the 30 years of its term, the development of the district was considerable but it was checked towards the end in the two southern tahsils in which there was no great room for reclamation as the existing cultivation was old and well established. In Utraula, on the other hand, development had been more rapid owing to improved communications, the marked increase in population and the disappearance of jungle and forests. In the Gonda and Tanjore ganj tahsils the cultivated area had actually fallen by 505 ha. but the recorded rent rate had risen by 20.77 per cent. The expiring demand was somewhat higher than that originally sanctioned, owing to the assessment to the extent of about forty or fifty thousand rupees of old *muafi* holdings, which had been declared revenue free for a single lifetime.

### Second Regular Settlement

The second regular Settlement began in 1897 and the assessment was completed in 1902. The new revenue demand was sanctioned for a period of thirty years from the date of introduction in each pargana, but in accordance with the provisions of the amended Land Revenue Act of 1929, the term of the Settlement was extended up to forty years. The system followed was generally the same as that adopted for the rest of the Avadh. For the purpose of soil demarcation the conventional classification was adopted. Circles were arranged topographically and not according to recorded rent



rates. In determining standard rates the different rates were framed for various classes of soils, based partly on the village rates and partly on an analysis of the recorded rents of selected villages in each circle, while a margin was left for short collection. The previous system was followed by adopting separate rates for high and low caste tenants. In dealing with the large assumption area, consisting of grain-rented land and proprietary cultivation, the usual method of valuation employed was the application of high caste rates, which were further reduced where circumstances seemed to require it. This reduction amounted to about 12.5 per cent in the case of occupancy tenants and cultivating proprietors; while the extensive under proprietary area was similarly treated, and in Digsir, where there had been distress, the rents paid were reduced.

The net assets on the area under assessment amounted to Rs 28,94,091. The proportion of the assets taken as revenue was 46.71 per cent, the enhancement was 15.37 per cent on the expiring revenue, and the demand fell with an incidence of Rs 1.83 per acre of the area assessed. The total gross revenue imposed was Rs 17,70,189, but this was largely in excess of the amount actually payable. It included the nominal assessment of Rs 1,245 on permanently settled estates in Guwarich, Paharapur, and Mahadeva belonging to the Maharaja of Kapurthala and the demand fixed for the purpose of calculating cesses on revenue-free estates and jungle grants held in fee simple. This amounted in all to Rs 60,038, of which Rs 46,408 were assessed on land in Utraula tahsil, Rs 9,987 in Tarabganj, and Rs 3,643 in Gosala. This left a net realizable total of Rs 17,08,906 including the revenue of the alluvial *mahals* and the permanent demand on the estates of the Maharaja of Balrampur. The ordinary demand was made progressive where necessary, so as to mitigate the pressure of a large enhancement where such had been imposed. For first five years the annual revenue was Rs 21,183 in the second five years Rs 12,32,371, and in the eleventh it reached saturation point giving Rs 12,51,265 on ordinarily estates, Rs 4,01,379 on the permanently settled Balrampur villages of which the demand remained unchanged throughout, while the remaining amount was assessed on the alluvial villages

These consisted of a number of *mahals*, which were subject to alluvion or diluvion by reason of the action of the Ghaghara and Rapti rivers. A considerable proportion of them though borne on the alluvial register, were assessed for the full term of the Settlement unconditionally, as they were the property of big talukdars, such as the Maharajas of Ayodhya and Balrampur, and owners agreed to a long term Settlement for reasons of convenience.

In addition to the ordinary revenue demand the usual cesses were imposed which were in force throughout Avadh. These consisted in 1904 of about 16 per cent of the revenue and amounted to Rs 3,09,122. The settlement was moderate. No attempt was made to anticipate any rise in assets. The result was seen in the smooth working of the Settlement and the general ease with which the revenue was collected.

### Third Regular Settlement

The third regular Settlement of the district was carried out between October 1938 and February, 1942. The district had 50 assessment circles including two relating to alluvial *mahals* along the Ghaghara and Rapti. During the course of this Settlement artificial pargana boundaries were ignored except where a pargana was inspected in a season different from the rest of the tahsil.<sup>1</sup> The practice adopted at last settlement of framing circles on the basis of rental incidences consisting of scattered villages with different physical characteristics had been abandoned. The circles were not too small or too numerous for a tract of this size and the average area was nearly 60 square miles each. The permanent settled parganas for the first time received a practical and effective soil classification, since at previous Settlements no attempts were made to classify soils or frame circles there.

The area assessed was 11,78,300 acres, which exceeded the normal cultivated area by 7,826 acres but only 91 per cent of the holdings area and was also well below the area cultivated in the year of record. As a rule the normal cultivated area of the last 13 years was accepted for assessment, but exceptions had been made in certain areas where cultivation had increased appreciably due to the opening of new farms and suitable deductions were made for safety in flooded and precarious areas.<sup>2</sup>

The net assets of the district were Rs 60.4 lakhs at Settlement as compared with Rs 43.4 lakhs at the earlier Settlements giving an increase of 39.2 per cent. The total revenue of the district was Rs 23,43,120, but the net revenue actually payable was Rs 18,69,410 and odd. In 42 alluvial *mahals* along the Ghaghara and 2 along the Rapti belonging to talukdars paying more than Rs 25 000 land revenue, the proprietors were offered unconditional long term settlements to which they were entitled under the In the case of the 42 Ghaghara *mahals*, the proprietors, influenced by the damages done and the havoc caused by the of 1938, preferred conditional long-term settlement, but for two Rapti *mahals* unconditional long term settlement were accepted. All other alluvial *mahals* were given octennial settlements, and for all non-alluvial *mahals* settlement for the full term of 40 years was proposed and accepted, there being no short term settlement.<sup>3</sup>

### Present System of Survey and Assessment

The Settlement operations after the abolition of zamindari may be undertaken in the district at any time not earlier than forty years from the date of vesting the interval between the succeeding settlements again being forty years. In case of a substantial decline in the price of agricultural produce which may continue for sometime, an interim revision may be taken up.

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1. *Final Settlement Report of Gonda District*, (Allahabad, 1944), p. 1

2. *Ibid.*, p. 2

3. *Ibid.*, p. 3

## Collection of Land Revenue

Prior to the abolition of the zamindari system rent was collected by intermediaries and the revenue was paid by them to government. After the abolition of zamindaris the system of direct collection by government from *bhumidhars* and *sirdars*, through the agency of the collection *amins* was introduced. The work of collection *amins* is supervised by *naib-tahsildars*, *tahsildars* and subdivisional officers. In 1952, the government appointed district collection officers to supervise collection work in the district but this scheme was discontinued in 1958 and subdivisional officers were made responsible for the work. The ultimate responsibility for collection of government dues being that of the collector.

The following statement shows the revenue demand and receipt from different sources in 1976-77 :

Main dues	Revenue (in Rs)	
	Demand	Receipt
Land Revenue	39,01,903	29,98,048
Vikas Kar	13,92,940	8,45,781
Irrigation dues	11,76,847	30,80,088

## LAND REFORMS

### Relation between Landlords and Tenants

At ancient times the cultivators paid revenue to the king directly and the latter, as was the practice of the day was to oblige the former by ensuring safety of his life and property. The region of Gonda being free from Muslim inroads for a considerably long period, was ruled by the Hindu rajas, who managed their own principalities. It was during the reign of Akbar that the district was brought under his rule and with the exception of few chieftains, all accepted the imperial suzerainty and paid tribute to the former. During Akbar's reign steps were taken to improve the condition of the cultivators with the introduction of uniform revenue laws, and cultivation in general prospered. Akbar's successors do not appear to have interfered with the existing system which remained in force till the disintegration of the Mughal empire. The district appears to have entered a difficult period under the Nawabs of Awadh. Since the fiscal administration under them had no sound footing and was rather ill-defined, the cultivators had sometimes to make payment of revenue to the Nawab, sometimes to his officials, and sometimes to the local zamindars. This state of affairs, by and large ruined the cultivators due to heavy extortion by the officials.

Under the British rule after annexation in 1856 the system obtaining under the nawabs was discontinued and steps were taken

to establish direct relationship with the cultivators. Onwards, the revenue Settlements were made in the district regularly and consequently various laws came into effect by which the government not only evolved a rational basis for determining the amount of rent and revenue to be paid by the cultivator and the landlord, but also provided various safeguards for the rights of the cultivators in order to minimise his exploitation.

### Abolition of Zamindari

Acting upon the recommendations of the U. P. Zamindari Abolition Committee, 1946, a bill was introduced in the Assembly and the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act 1950 (U. P. Act, I of 1951), was enforced with effect from July 1, 1952 doing away with the system of intermediaries (with the exception of urban areas and government estates) in the district, affecting 1,33.07 persons and replacing multiplicity of tenures by only four types : the *bhumidhars*, *sirdars*, *asamis* and *adhivasis*.

As a result of abolition of zamindaris the intermediaries became *bhumidhars* of their *sir* and *khudkasht* lands and groves. Certain other tenure-holders also acquired the same status in land under their cultivation provided they fulfilled certain specified condition. Such a *bhumidhar* possesses heritable and transferable rights in his holding from which he cannot be ejected. Certain other categories of tenants who did not, in the first instance acquire *bhumidhari* right became *sirdar* of the land in their cultivation. As a *sirdar* he had permanent and heritable interest in his holding but could not transfer it. He could use his land only for purposes of agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry and acquire *bhumidhari* rights in his holding by paying to the government a sum representing a prescribed multiple of his annual land revenue.

In the year 1977, the tenure of *adhivasis* was abolished by another law in January, 1977, the State government conferred the rights of *bhumidhars* on all the *sirdars* thus reducing the number of tenures to only two, namely the *bhumidhar* and the *asami*, *Sirdars* on whom rights of *bhumidhars* were conferred in January, 1977, by the government, however, do not enjoy the right to transfer their land.

Certain *bhumidhars* such as those employed in defence services or invalidated by age or injury etc., are entitled to sublet their land. The lessee is known as an *asami* and he is a tenant of a *bhumidhar* or *gaon sabha*. He has neither heritable nor transferable rights and is liable to ejectment for void transfers or on the extinction of the rights of the *bhumidhars* concerned or for contravention of any other provision of the Act. The total compensation determined up to 1976-77 was Rs 2,25,13,837 of which an amount of Rs 17,37,379 was paid in cash and Rs 2,07,76,458 in bonds. An amount of Rs 6,56,382 in cash and Rs 84,26,200 in bonds was paid as the rehabilitation grant to 19,929 persons. The landholder *adhivasis* also received compensation according to the provisions of the Act. The number of tenure-holders and the holdings with their total areas in the district in 1976-77 were as follows :

Kinds of tenures	No. of tenure-holders	No. of holdings	Total area (in ha.)	Average size of holdings (in ha.)
<i>Bhumidhars</i>	6,69,856	5,69,191	5,80,154	1 ha.
<i>Asamis</i>	32,186	34,388	1,258	Below 1 ha.

The *bhumidhars* are under the provisions of law jointly and severally responsible for the payment of land revenue to the government. The Act of 1952, also established land management committees for the management of lands not comprised in any holding or grove, forests within the village boundaries, tanks, ponds and fisheries, hats, bazars and *melas* and other sources of income vested in the *gaon sabha*.

**Urban**—Abolition of zamindari in respect of agricultural lands in urban areas of the district was done with the enforcement of the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1956 (U. P. Act, IX of 1957). The amount of compensation assessed was Rs 1,22,154 of which an amount of Rs 1,20,694 has been paid to the persons affected by the Act.

### Consolidation of Holdings

The U. P. Consolidation of Holdings Act 1953 (Act V of 1954), provides for consolidation of scattered and small holdings. Areas in different tahsils of the district were taken under the same in a phased manner as would be evident from the following chart :

Name of tahsil	Year of enforcement	Total number of villages	Area under consolidation (in ha.)
Gonda	1963	765	1,36,061
Tarabganj	1972	81	21,900
Utraula	1972	413	53,979
Utraula I	1970	382	36,232

The work of consolidation in the district is looked after by two settlement officers (consolidation), one, having under him the tahsils of Gonda, Tarabganj and a part of Utraula and the other, the remaining part of Utraula. The officers are assisted by a number of consolidation and assistant consolidation officers, besides some other field staff.

### Imposition of Ceiling of Land Holdings

As a step towards social and economic justice by way of providing land to the landless and agricultural labourers and bring

about an equitable distribution of land, the Uttar Pradesh Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings Tax Act, 1960, was passed. The Act was enforced in the district in January, 1961, and later amended in 1972. The number of tenure-holders affected by this Act was 1,288 and the total area declared surplus was 8,246 ha. An area of 1,970 ha. has been allotted to 2,685 persons.

A sum of Rs 2,21,417, has been assessed as compensation of which Rs 1,86,521 has been paid by the end of December, 1977 to the persons affected by the Act. Of this a sum of Rs 1,50,724 was paid to 99 persons/cases by the end of March, 1978.

An amount of Rs 1,45,868 was advanced as short-term and Rs 3,50,000 as long-term help to the allottees of the surplus land for making their land fit for cultivation.

### Bhoodan

In 1951, Acharya Vinoba Bhave, initiated Bhoodan movement in Uttar Pradesh with the object of obtaining land for the landless. The State government, therefore, passed the U. P. Bhoodan Yajna Act, 1952. As a result of this, an area of about 1,730,840 ha. was received in donation/gift in the district which has been distributed among the landless persons.

## ADMINISTRATION OF OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE

### Central Taxes

The Central government taxes consist of central excise, come-tax and estate duties.

**Central Excise**—For purposes of central excise the district falls in multi-officer-range which also includes the district of Gonda in it. The range is under a superintendent who is assisted by five inspectors in the district. The important taxable commodities are V. P. sugar, ply-wood and tobacco.

The excise revenue collected in the district from 1972-73 to 1976-77 under different commodities is given in the following statement :

Year	Revenue (in Rs)			
	V. P. Sugar	Ply-wood	Tobacco	Branded chewing tobacco
1972-73	1,87,16,859	75,004	1,78,419	-
1973-74	1,87,14,859	75,821	1,92,216	-
1974-75	1,88,37,552	1,08,741	2,68,076	-
1975-76	2,75,98,507	1,81,823	3,14,195	507
1976-77	1,98,82,231	2,71,329	4,55,229	536

**Income-tax**—This is another important source of revenue of the Central government. For the collection of this tax, an income tax officer has been appointed at Gonda who is assisted by an inspector.

The following statement shows the number of assesseees and the amount collected as income-tax between the years 1972-73 and 1976-77 :

Year	No. of assesseees	Amount of tax (in thousand of Rs)
1972-73	1,911	1,331
1973-74	2,246	1,097
1974-75	2,337	1,342
1975-76	2,632	1,172
1976-77	2,655	2,326

**Wealth-tax and Gift-tax**—The taxes imposed under the provisions of the Wealth-tax Act, 1957 and Gift Tax Act, 1958, are also collected by the income tax department. The following statement gives the number of assesseees and the amount of the wealth-tax and gift-tax collected from 1972-73 to 1976-77 :

Year	Wealth-tax		Gift-tax	
	No. of assesseees	Amount of tax (in thousand)	No. of assesseees	Amount of tax (in thousand)
1972-73	35	45	28	20
1973-74	28	26	34	17
1974-75	37	21	35	19
1975-76	41	29	31	18
1976-77	103	110	33	23

**Estate Duty**—Estate duty is levied under the provisions of the Estate Duty Act, 1953, on the property left by a deceased person. District Gonda falls under the estate duty circle Allahabad.

The following statement gives the amount of estate duty collected in the district from 1972-73 to 1976-77 :

Year	Over Rs one lakh		Below Rs one lakh		Total	
	No. of assesseees	Amount of tax (in thousand Rs)	No. of assesseees	Amount of tax (in thousand Rs)	No. of assesseees	Amount of tax (in thousand Rs)
1972-73	72	969	71	98	143	1,067
1973-74	66	734	64	79	130	813
1974-75	89	923	65	80	154	1,003
1975-76	60	1,147	48	61	108	1,208
1976-77	72	1,140	53	101	155	1,241

## State Taxes

Excise, sales tax, stamps, registration fees, taxes on motor vehicles, entertainment and betting tax, are some of the principal sources of revenue of the State government.

**Excise**—The subject under this head are governed by the United Provinces Excise Act, 1910. In Uttar Pradesh the administration of excise covers liquor, hemp-drugs, molasses, alcoholic medicines, power alcohol and motor spirit, their production, distribution and sale.

For purposes of excise administration the district falls in the excise range of Gorakhpur which is under the charge of a deputy excise commissioner stationed at Gorakhpur. At the district level the work is looked after by an official who is designated as district excise officer and is a departmental officer of the rank of superintendent of excise or assistant excise commissioner. In his field he exercises all the powers which were formerly exercised by the district magistrate. He is assisted by 11 excise inspectors. The district has been divided into three excise circles each under the charge of an inspector. Circle I covers Gonda tahsil, circle II tahsil Tarabganj and Sadullah Nagar (a pargana of Utraula tahsil) and circle III tahsil Balrampur and pargana Utraula. The first two circles have their headquarters at Gonda and the third one at Balrampur. The three sugar factories of the district and the ganja squad are each under an excise inspector whereas the Narang Distillery and Brewery, Ltd., at Nawabganj which manufactures whisky, brandy, gin, rum, beer country spirit (plain and special), and spirit (denatured and rectified) is looked after by 4 excise inspectors.

**Liquor**—In respect of country spirit auction system is in vogue. The contractors for liquor (country spirit) are issued liquor from the warehouse situated at Gonda. There is also one wholesale depot of country spirit at Tulsipur in tahsil Utraula.

The total number of licence holders of the country spirit in the district is 65. Of this 25 are in tahsil Balrampur, 14 in Gonda, 11 in Utraula and 15 in Tarabganj.

The following statement shows the total consumption of country spirit from 1971-72 to 1976-77 :

Year	Total consumption (in A.L.)
1971-72	78,270
1972-73	62,157
1973-74	86,119
1974-75	88,951
1975-76	81,735
1976-77	80,832



**Foreign Liquor**—Foreign liquor is manufactured in the Narang Distillery and Brewery, Ltd., at Nawabganj (tahsil Tarabganj). The number of foreign liquor shops in the district is 11, of which 4 are in tahsil Gonda, 2 in Tarabganj, 3 in Balrampur and 2 in Utraula.

**Hemp drug**—Hemp known as bhang is also a source of excise revenue. The hemp plant grows wild in tahsil Balrampur. Its dried leaves, which mainly constitute what is known as bhang are collected by the department at Balrampur through a number of supply contractors wherefrom the various bonded warehouses are fed as per need. The supply of bhang in this district is based on tender system, tenders being accepted by the excise commissioner. There are 23 bhang shops in the district. The following statement shows the consumption of bhang in the district from 1965-66 to 1976-77 :

Year	Consumption (in kg.)
1971-72	1,863
1972-73	1,779
1973-74	1,799
1974-75	1,887
1975-76	1,922
1976-77	1,935

**Tari**—In this district the supply and sale of tari is also based on auction system. There are five tari shops in the district of which 2 shops are in Gonda, 2 in Tarabganj and 1 in Utraula tahsils.

The following statement gives the amount of excise revenue from different sources between 1972-73 and 1976-77 :

Year	Revenue (in Rs)		
	Country liquor	Bhang	Tari
1972-73	20,47,870	48,781	58,400
1973-74	25,21,907	49,186	60,800
1974-75	32,28,918	62,141	64,200
1975-76	39,54,357	59,349	83,000
1976-77	41,93,408	59,563	1,50,000

### Sales Tax

Sales tax is levied under the U. P. Sales Tax Act 1948, and Central Sales Tax Act, 1957 as amended from time to time. For purposes of assessment and administration, a sales tax officer

has been posted in the district with headquarters at Gonda. The district has been divided into sectors and one sub-circle, each under the charge of an assistant sales tax officer.

The number of assessees and the amount collected as sales tax in respect of important commodities from April 1, 1977 to September 30, 1977 are given in the following statement :

Commodities	No. of assessees	Amount (in Rs)
Food-grains	110	23,03,784
Bricks	134	3,98,583
Hard board (plywood)	1	2,61,895
Wood and timber	140	1,88,018
Oil-seeds	23	93,138
Machinery and spare parts	32	79,826
Iron and steel	57	55,808
Bicycle and tricycle	2	55,624
Excise goods	4	46,307
Oil of all kinds	-	45,378
Cement	13	43,835
Motor cycle and spare parts	-	35,294
General merchandise	120	21,381
Ornaments	-	8,136
Cotton yarn	22	3,292
Bullion	-	2,475
Brassware	29	840

The following statement shows the total amount of sales tax collected in the district from 1967-68 to 1976-77 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1967-68	28,24,070
1968-69	31,23,704
1969-70	32,01,060
1970-71	31,00,130
1971-72	30,72,128
1972-73	37,99,371
1973-74	46,25,728
1974-75	62,23,003
1975-76	73,72,752
1976-77	82,82,298

### Stamps

Under the Indian Stamps Act, 1899, stamps are classified as judicial and non-judicial. Judicial stamps are affixed where court fee is to be paid and the latter on bills of exchange, receipts involving more than a sum of Rs 20 and documents in respect of which stamps duty is payable. Income from the source also includes fines and penalties realised under the Act.

The receipts under this head during the last five years ending with 1976-77 is given below :

Year	Judicial	Non-judicial
1972-73	6,92,675	6,18,860
1973-74	14,30,924	7,13,656
1974-75	30,55,461	7,28,880
1975-76	26,22,235	6,48,088
1976-77	32,88,803	7,53,533

The following figures indicate the amount of stamps duty and penalty realised during the period 1972-73 and 1976-77 :

Year	Amount realised (in Rs)		
	Duty	Penalty	Total
1972-73	3,809	1,711	5,520
1973-74	3,402	3,000	6,403
1974-75	12,901	14,107	27,008
1975-76	1,74,121	6,30,629	8,04,750
1976-77	9,763	12,815	22,577

## Registration

Documents such as instruments of gifts, sale and lease of immovable property and transfer of shares in joint-stock company have to be registered under the Indian Registration Act, 1888. There are four sub-registrars in the district posted at the headquarters of each tahsil. They all work under additional district magistrate (finance and revenue) who is district registrar for the purpose.

The following statement shows the income and expenditure on the establishment during 1972-73 to 1976-77 :

Year	Income (in Rs)	Expenditure (in Rs)	No. of documents registered
1972-73	2,19,116	74,525	7,443
1973-74	4,32,108	78,468	11,896
1974-75	5,79,897	1,00,581	13,866
1975-76	5,57,622	1,00,866	11,571
1976-77	5,96,994	1,14,039	10,406

## Tax on Motor Vehicles

For purposes of realising this tax the district falls in Faizabad region which is under the charge of a regional transports officer. He is assisted by a passenger tax officer and a goods tax officer stationed at Faizabad. The motor vehicles are taxed under the U. P. Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1933 (Act. V of 1935), the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, U. P. Motor Gadi (*yatri-kar*) Adhiniyam, 1962 and U. P. Motor Gadi (*Mal-kar*) Adhiniyam, 1964. The amount of tax collected in the region, comprising the districts of Faizabad, Sultanpur, Bahraich and Gonda is given in the following statement to have an assessment of the share of the district as the data for district are not available separately.

Year	Goods tax (in Rs)	Road tax (in Rs)
1972	*68,163	13,30,671
1973	6,30,029	12,51,657
1974	8,55,948	23,10,263
1975	8,61,172	25,47,744
1976	12,64,288	33,99,842

\*The amount relates to part of the year as the Tax was introduced in 1972.

## Entertainment Tax

In this district entertainment tax is realised according to the provisions of the U. P. Entertainment and Betting Tax Act, 1937. The cinemas circuses, housie, magic and puppet shows are the source of income in the district. A subdivisional magistrate is responsible for the realisation of the tax who is assisted by two entertainment tax inspectors one each at Gonda and Balrampur. The following statement shows the amount of entertainment tax realised in the district from 1972-73 to 1976-77 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1972-73	4,86,349
1973-74	5,68,242
1974-75	7,45,932
1975-76	10,28,923
1976-77	13,72,639

## CHAPTER XII

### LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

#### LAW AND ORDER

##### Incidence of Crime

Detailed statistics and information about the various types of crimes, their nature and incidence regarding the district are available from the year 1896. At that time the chief forms of crime were those which were generally to be found in agricultural districts. There were no large cities, and consequently but few habitual criminals with the exception of the Barwars who came under a special category. They did not, as a rule, commit their depredations in this district, and those of them that were confined in the Gonda jail were suffering the penalty for absconding. The most prevalent offences were petty theft and burglary. Agrarian disputes were common in some parts of the district, and resulted in numerous cases of criminal trespass, frequently resulting in grievous hurt or even loss of life. This was only to be expected in a district in which so large a proportion of the population consisted of Brahmans Rajputs, and Ahirs, all of whom were strongly imbued with a fighting spirit and were descended from men who rendered themselves famous in the annals of intestine warfare in Avadh. Organized crimes in the shape of gang robberies and dacoities were comparatively rare; in fact, remarkably so for a district which contained many natural places of refuge.

नवप्रमाण नयन

In 1901, the district recorded an increase in crimes against public tranquillity. There was decrease in all the other types of crimes. The decade ending 1911, indicated marginal rise in crime like robbery and dacoity and grievous hurt but the following decade indicated marked rise in grievous hurt. Crimes like cattle theft were recorded for the first time in this decade. The decade ending 1931, indicated marginal rise in cattle theft, criminal force and assault, receiving stolen property and marked rise in crimes against public tranquillity. There was no marked change in the crime pattern except that the decade ending 1951 recorded increase in crimes affecting life, robbery and dacoity.

An idea of the crime, its incidence, nature and volume can be had from the decadewise crime figures from 1921 to 1970 given in the following table :

Nature of crime	1921	1931	1951	1960	1970
Offences against public tranquillity	80	225	42	12	72
Offences affecting life	10	5	28	-	48
Grievous hurt	139	21	15	4	40
Rape	-	-	-	17	12
Cattle theft	15	26	-	-	10
Criminal force and assault	13	20	6	45	20
Theft	179	82	143	4	86
Robbery and dacoity	13	4	25	70	12
Receiving stolen property	14	21	-	-	28
Criminal trespass	134	116	-	-	44

Some more information on the subject has been given under the section of 'justice' of this chapter.

#### ORGANISATION OF POLICE

In 1870 there were only nine police-stations. These stations were located at Gonda and Ayah in the headquarters tahsil; at Colonelganj, Begumganj; and Wazirganj in tahsil Tarabganj; and at Utraula, Balrampur, Tulsipur and Rehra in tahsil Utraula. Among the earliest changes were the establishment of a new thana at Paraspur, the transfer of station at Begumganj to Tarabganj, and that at Ayah to Itiathoke on the main road. In 1874 the station at Birpur in pargana Babhnipair was built, and four years later another was established at Sadullah Nagar. In 1880 the police arrangements were further reorganized: new stations were established at Katra, Andhiari, and Pachperwa, while that at Rehra was moved to Srinagar. In 1881 another thana at Lallia came into existence and in 1886 a station at Nawabganj was established.

There occurred considerable changes in the number and jurisdiction of the thanas during the next twenty years. However, the jurisdiction of the thanas was largely artificial and was frequently formed without regard to the boundaries of the revenue and magisterial subdivisions. In Gonda tahsil the stations were then located at Gonda, Itiathoke, Srinagar, and Katra; in the Tarabganj tahsil at Tarabganj, Paraspur, Colonelganj, Wazirganj and Nawabganj and in the Utraula tahsil at Utraula, Birpur, Andhiari, Sadullahnagar, Balrampur, Lallia, Tulsipur and Pachperwa.

The whole police force was under the control of the district superintendent who was assisted by two inspectors. The police force then comprised the civil police, armed police, municipal police, town police and the village and road chowkidars.

At present at the regional level the police administration of the district is under the deputy inspector general of police with headquarters at Faizabad.

The district police administration is headed by a superintendent of police with his headquarters at Gonda. He is responsible for maintenance of peace, law and order, prevention, detection and investigations of crime besides keeping the force under him disciplined and efficient.

The district has been divided into four circles for efficient policing, each in charge of a deputy superintendent of police. The deputy superintendents perform all the superintendent's work which are entrusted to them besides making inquiries, supervising the work of police stations in their circle and helping in important investigations.

The police force of the district is divided into two broad classes, the civil and the armed police.

In 1978 the district had 24 police-stations and 15 police-outposts. Broadly, the duties of the police are to prevent, detect and investigate crimes regulate traffic in the towns and maintain law and order in the district. The following statement gives the names of police-stations and outposts in each circle:

Police circle	Police-station	Police-outpost under each police-station
1	2	3
Balrampur	Balrampur Nagar Balrampur Dehat Tulsipur Pachperwa Harraiya Lallia	Baluha Purab Tola Baghontiganj Mewalal
City	Kotwali Nagar Kotwali Dehat Itiathoke Khargapur Kuria Katra Bazar	Pandey Bazar Bargaon Civil line Maharajganj
Tarabaganj	Colonelganj Paraspur Umri Begamganj Tarabaganj Nawabganj Wazirganj	Dubha Balapur Colonelganj Lakarmandi Nawabganj Dumaria Dih
Utraula	Utraula Rehra Dhanepur Mankapur Sadullah Nagar Chhapia	Utraula

## **Village Police**

The institution of village chowkidars, which forms the lowest rank of the police organisation, came into being after the enforcement of the North-Western Provinces and Road Police Act, (Act XVI of 1873) and even since the role of these village chowkidars has continued to gain in importance with the passage of time. The chowkidars while living in their villages are attached to the police-stations and are paid a nominal amount by the government for the service rendered by them. Their main duty is to inform the local police of the occurrence of any crime within their jurisdiction. In 1978, the strength of the chowkidars in the district was 1336.

## **Government Railway Police**

The government railway police is a separate wing of the State police. Its main duty is to maintain order at railway stations and in trains, assist the checking squad in prevention of ticketless travel, control and investigate crime within railway precincts, deal with cases of accidents and attend to security arrangements when required. At Gonda there is a railway police-station and outpost at Mankapur.

## **Prosecution Staff**

The prosecution staff of the district comprises one senior public prosecuting officer, fourteen assistant prosecuting officers, eight head constables and four constables. The staff has since been placed under the administrative control of the district magistrate. They conduct legal proceedings on behalf of the State, before the magistrates and advise the investigating officers on legal matters arising in the course of investigation of crimes.

In sessions cases and criminal appeals, the government counsel together with his assistants conducts the cases on behalf of the State.

## **Jail and Lock-ups**

The institution of jail, as it exists today, is an integral part of the judicial system. The first jail built in the district was a temporary structure of mud, but was replaced in 1866 by the existing building. It has a capacity to accommodate 500 prisoners. It is under the charge of a superintendent who is assisted by a jailor, two deputy jailors and three assistant jailors. At the State level the inspector general of prisons, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow, is the administrative head of the department. To provide prompt medical facility to the convicts and under-trials, a 12 bedded jail hospital under the charge of an assistant medical officer, who is assisted by one compounder, is located in the jail premises.



The average daily population of the prisoners and under-trials in the jail from the year 1972 to 1976 was as follows :

Year	Prisoners	Under-trials
1972	300	351
1973	225	328
1974	187	383
1975	211	452
1976	140	532

**Welfare of Prisoners**—Prisoners and under-trials are classified as superior and ordinary class.

The treatment of prisoners and under-trials has vastly improved since Independence. Now regular wages are paid to them for their labour. They also take part in constructive activities and are provided with facilities relating to medical, games, recreations, etc. On the occasion of main festivals the prisoners are treated to special diets.

**Revising Board**—There is a revising board for the jail with the district magistrate as its chairman, the sessions judge and a non-official being the other members. The purpose of the board is periodical review of cases of all the convicts, sentenced to imprisonment of not less than three years.

**Visitors**—The ex officio visitors of the jail, appointed by the State Government are the director of the medical and public health services Uttar Pradesh all the members of the State and Central legislatures from the district and all the members of the standing committee of the State legislature for jails. The chairman of the central committee of the U. P. Apradh Nirodhak Samiti, chairman of the municipal board and the Adhyaksha, Zila Parishad are also non-official visitors of the jail.

**Lock-ups**—There is a lock-up located in each of the compounds of the collectorate and sessions courts for custody of prisoners brought from the jail to attend the hearing of their cases and persons rounded up by the police for various offences before they are sent to the prison or bailed out.

### Probation

The probation scheme was introduced in the district in 1970 under the U. P. Children Act, 1952 and a reformation officer was appointed in the district in 1972. The U. P. First Offenders Probation Act, 1938, was introduced in the district in 1961, and responsibility of probation officer was given to a honorary person. However, this scheme was dropped before 1970 but was reintroduced in the district in 1973, the reformation officer being appointed as probation officer in addition to his own duties

in September, 1974. In December, 1976 the two posts were merged together and the officer was designated as probation officer. The probation officer works under the administrative control of the director, Harijan and social welfare department, U. P. At the district level for the day to day administration he works under the district magistrate.

He supervises the activities and watches the conduct of those released on probation and placed under his supervision; visits them to watch and ensure that they observe the conditions of the bonds executed by them and submits periodical reports to the courts concerned and, in general assists and befriends them trying, if necessary, to find suitable jobs for them.

Some details of the probation works done in 1976 in the district are as follows:

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No. of non-juvenile delinquents dealt with under U. P. First Offenders Probation Act 1933	
(a) Let off after admonition	214
(b) Let off on furnishing bond with or without sureties	125
No. of domiciliary visits paid during 1976	663
No. of persons whose bonds were cancelled and sentenced	Nil
No. of persons released in 1976 under the Probation Act	1
No. of enquiry reports submitted in 1976	43

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The following statement shows the work done under the reformation scheme in 1976 in the district :

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Nature of work done	Number
Children let off un-conditionally after disposal of case	6
Children placed under supervision of reformation officer after furnishing bonds with or without sureties	18
Children let off after admonition	1
Children sent to government approved school	17
Children in observation home on January 1, 1976	14
Children admitted during the year	60
Children handed over to parents/ guardians conditionally after furnishing bond with or without sureties after disposal of cases	23
Children handed over to parents or guardians after furnishing bond with sureties pending disposal of cases	4
Children in observation home at the end of the year	8

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## JUSTICE

Prior to Independence only sessions cases, criminal appeals and revisions, civil suits of any value however high and civil appeals upto the valuation of Rs 5,000 against the judgements of *munsifs* were disposed of by the district and sessions judge and civil and sessions judges. The civil and assistant sessions judge had unlimited pecuniary jurisdiction regarding civil suits and as assistant sessions judges they could award punishment of ten years imprisonment in sessions cases. The appeals against the judgements of civil judges could not be heard by the district judge, but they could hear appeals from the judgements of the assistant sessions judges, if the sentence passed by them did not exceed five years. The *munsifs* were empowered to dispose of civil suits up to a valuation of Rs 5,000 only. Appeals against their judgements were heard by the district judge and civil and sessions judges or the civil judge.

Criminal cases relating to the courts of the magistrate were disposed of by subdivisional magistrates and judicial magistrates, who were under the administrative control of the district magistrate, although appeals against their judgements used to be heard by the sessions judge or the additional sessions judges.

Till the year 1967, the pattern of system for dispensing justice was the same as in the pre-Independence period, but in that year the judicial magistrates, including the additional district magistrate (judicial), who is now designated as chief judicial magistrate, were put under the control of the High Court. The *munsifs* were also conferred with magisterial powers and now the *munsif* magistrates are also disposing of criminal cases.

From the year 1954 district judges have been invested with the power of hearing appeals against the judgements of civil judges in suits up to the valuation of Rs 10,000. Later on, in the year 1970, this jurisdiction was extended to suits of the valuation up to Rs 20,000, and through an amendment in the Civil Procedure Code in the year 1970, the district judge were also conferred with powers to hear revisions against the orders passed by the *munsifs* and civil judges in suits up to the valuation of Rs 20,000.

Very recently in 1977 the jurisdiction of some senior *munsifs* has been extended up to suits of valuation of Rs 10,000.

**Civil Justice**

The present staff for civil judiciary work consists of a district judge, four additional district judges and one civil judge. There are three *munsifs* posted one each at Gonda, Balrampur and Utraula and four additional *munsifs*, all headquartered at Gonda.

The position of the civil cases in the year 1976 is given in the following statement :

Cases	Number of suits
Pending at the beginning of the year	2,041
Instituted during that year	1,132
Disposed of during the year	1,421
Pending at the end of the year	1,752

The number of suits involving immovable property was 611, money or moveable property 342, matrimonial 17, and other important cases 162. The number of suits instituted in 1976 according to their valuation was as follows :

Valuation	Number of suits
Not exceeding Rs 100	101
Exceeding Rs 100 but not exceeding Rs 1,000	726
Exceeding Rs 1,000 but not exceeding Rs 5,000	247
Exceeding Rs 5,000 but not exceeding Rs 10,000	39
Exceeding Rs 10,000 but not exceeding Rs 20,000	19
Exceeding Rs 20,000 but not exceeding Rs 5 lakhs	Nil
Exceeding Rs 5 lakhs	Nil
Total number of suits instituted	1,132

The details of the modes of disposal of the suits in the year 1976 were as follows :

Manner of disposal	Number of suits
Decided after trial	371
Dismissed for default	381
Otherwise decided without trial	272
Decreed ex-parte	145
On admission of claim	16
On compromise	236

The position of appeals instituted and disposed of during the year 1976 was as follows :

Nature of appeals	Instituted	Disposed of
Regular civil appeals	228	271
Regular rent appeals	Nil	Nil
Miscellaneous civil appeals	68	91
Miscellaneous rent appeals	Nil	Nil

### Criminal Justice

At present the district and sessions judge constitutes the chief criminal court of the district. He is assisted by four additional sessions judges and one assistant session judge. As district and sessions judge he deals with criminal cases triable by the court of sessions and has appellate jurisdiction against the judgements and orders of the *munsifs* and magistrates working in the district. There are three *munsif*-magistrates, four additional *munsif*-magistrates, two special judicial magistrates, four additional magistrates and a chief judicial magistrate.

Some details of the criminal case work done by the courts from 1974 to 1976 are given below :

Nature of offence	1974*	1975*	1976*
Affecting life	140 120	166 105	308 84
Kidnapping and forcible abduction	39 17	38 13	106 28
Hurt	492 10	887 9	1,179 27
Rape	11 28	15 9	39 5
Unnatural offences	—	1	5
Extortion	36	22	62
Robbery and dacoity	272 130	299 96	663 77
Other cases	4,638 47	7,168 18	11,345 59

\* Numerator represents the data of all the judicial magistrates court and denominator of the sessions courts

The following statement shows the number of persons sentenced by the courts during the years 1974 to 1976 :

Persons tried/sentenced	1974*	1975*	1976*
Persons tried	4,396 614	6,904 658	10,920 755
Life imprisonment	13	76	34
Rigorous imprisonment	205	407	450
Simple imprisonment	128 1	70 278	72 72
Fined only	1,729	2,686	2,933
Other punishments	68	294	321

\*Number ator represents the data of all the judicial magistrates courts and denominator of sessions courts

## Separation of Judiciary from Executive

Prior to the year 1967, the entire criminal case work relating to magistral courts was done by the subdivisional and the judicial magistrates, who were under the administrative control of the district magistrate. The process of separation of judiciary from executive started with effect from 2nd October, 1967, when the judicial magistrates were placed under the administrative control of the High Court. An additional district magistrate (judicial) was appointed in place of the district magistrate, to look after the work of the judicial magistrates. He has since been designated as chief judicial magistrate. From the year 1967 onwards *munsifs* have also been conferred with magisterial powers and they are also doing criminal cases. The new code of criminal procedure and its enforcement on April 1, 1974 brought about complete separation of the judiciary from the executive.

## Nyaya Panchayats

For the purpose of rendering dispensation of justice quick and less costly and associating people with its administration in rural areas, Panchayat Adalat were established in the district in 1949 under the United Provinces Panchayat Raj Act, 1947. They were subsequently named as *nyaya* panchayats. The jurisdiction of a *nyaya* panchayat usually extends over an area of five to ten *gaon sabhas*, depending on the population of the constituent villages. The total number of *nyaya* panchayats in the district is 267. The following statement shows the tahsilwise distribution of *nyaya* panchayats at the time of their formation and their present position in 1977 :

Tahsil	1949	1977
Gonda	73	74
Tarabganj	60	60
Utraula	132	66
Balrampur	—	67

The *panchas* of the *nyaya* panchayats, are nominated from amongst the elected members of the *gaon* panchayats by the district magistrate with the assistance of an advisory body. The *panchas*, from amongst themselves, elect the *sarpanch* who is the presiding officer, and a *sahayak* (assistant) *sarpanch*. The *panchas* are honorary workers and hold office for a period of five years, though it may be extended by a year by the State Government.

The cases are headed by benches constituted by the *sarpanch*, each bench consisting of five *panchas* for a period of one year. The presence of at least three *panchas* including the *sarpanch* at each hearing is essential.

The *nyaya* panchayats are empowered to try cases under the following Act.

(a) U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947

(b) Sections

140	277	323	374	430	509
160	283	334	379*	431	510
172	285	341	403*	447	
174	289	352	411*	448	*
179	290	357	428	504	
289	294	358	428	506	

of the Indian Penal Code

\*Involving property not exceeding an amount of Rs. 50 in value

(c) Sections 24 and 26 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871

(d) Section 1 of section 10 of the U. P. District Board Primary Education Act, 1926.

(e) Sections 3, 4, 7 and 13 of the Public Gambling Act, 1867 as amended for Uttar Pradesh.

The *nyaya* panchayats are not empowered to award sentences of imprisonment and can only impose fines up to a sum of Rs 100. In civil cases the jurisdiction extends to valuation up to Rs 500.

An idea may be had regarding the work done by the *nyaya* panchayats during the years 1972-73 to 1976-77 from the following statement :

Year	No. of cases pending at the beginning of the year	No. of cases instituted during the year	No. of cases disposed by the end of year
1972-73	81	56	71
1973-74	66	—	—
1974-75	66	1,030	683
1975-76	413	951	960
1976-77	404	946	1,191

### Bar Association

There are five bar associations in the district namely the Civil Court bar association, Gonda, the district bar association, Gonda, the bar associations of Utraula, Balrampur and Tarabganj.

The primary aim of these bar associations is to help and safeguard the interests of the litigants, particularly the poor. They also look after the welfare of their members, help in the discharge of their duties and responsibilities, provide library facility for study during court hours. The present strength of the members of these associations is 334, the total number of lawyers in 1977 being 434.

## CHAPTER XIII

### OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Besides the administrative departments discussed in chapters X, XI and XII, dealing with general administration, revenue administration and law and order and justice the organizational set up and functions of other important departments at the district level such as the agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operative, forest, industries and public works are described below.

#### AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

The main function of this department is to guide and assist the agricultural population and to encourage them to adopt improved practices and modern technology suited to local conditions, besides arranging uninterrupted supply of inputs like quality seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides, etc. For administrative purposes, the district falls in the jurisdiction of the deputy director of agriculture, Faizabad region. A project officer is in charge of the work at the district level who is assisted by a subject matter specialist of the rank of district agriculture officer, and four additional district agriculture officers. They are assisted by a team of trained workers and other staff to push forward various agricultural programmes, including extension of area under high yielding crops, oilseeds, cotton etc., and formulation and implementation of Five-year Plan schemes. There is another additional district agriculture officer (oil-seeds). He is assisted by three assistant agriculture inspectors (oil-seeds), and three supervisors who carry out and supervise oil-seeds activities at the development block level. Other activities of the department at the block level are supervised by an assistant block development officer (agriculture). They are responsible for all-round development of agriculture on scientific lines in their areas. They arrange demonstrations of modern methods of agriculture, use of fertilisers, improved implements, hybrid seeds and pesticides. Seventy-five assistant inspectors of agriculture assisted by one hundred and fifty *kamdars* look after the distribution of improved variety of seeds fertilisers and agricultural implement from the seed stores under their charge. Besides meeting the input requirements of the blocks they are also associated with agricultural development activities of villages adjoining the seed stores, numbering fifty in the district.

The district has six government seed multiplication farms, each under a farm superintendent. There are also jute development centres which are supervised by a jute development inspector and six assistant inspectors. There is also a plant protection officer, who takes timely measures for protection of plants and crops from diseases, insects, pests, etc., besides guiding the cultivators in the practice of preventive measures.



## Soil Conservation

Soil conservation work in the district is looked after by a Bhumi Sanrakshan Adhikari who works under the control of the deputy director, agriculture (soil conservation), Faizabad region. The Bhumi Sanrakshan Adhikari is assisted by a technical assistant and two overseers at the district headquarters. The field staff consists of five soil conservation inspectors and 25 assistant soil conservation inspectors. The latter are trained hands in the work relating to soil conservation and are responsible for execution of work in the project according to plan and estimate.

## HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT

The district horticulture officer is responsible for laying out new orchards, rejuvenating existing groves, supplying seeds, plants and saplings and providing necessary technical knowledge to horticulturists. He is assisted by a senior horticulture inspector, a horticulture inspector, and an assistant horticulture inspector.

## ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT

This district falls under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of animal husbandry, Faizabad circle. A district live-stock officer is in charge of the department at the district level. He is responsible for the work relating to improvement of animal breeds and poultry prevention and treatment of disease, controllini of possible outbreaks of epidemics among animals, and implementation of Plan schemes of the department. He plays an active role in the execution of applied nutrition programmes, and arranges financial assistance to prospective breeders. He is assisted by an artificial insemination officer, an officer in charge ; semen collection centre, a veterinary officer, and 30 veterinary surgeons. The artificial insemination officer is responsible for better breeding of cattle, supervision of artificial insemination centres and sub-centres, organisation of sterility camps, treatment of sub-fertile and sterile animals, development of fodder crops distribution of improved fodder seeds and maintenance and supervision of stud animals in the district. There are two veterinary hospitals, four artificial insemination centres with three sub-centres in this district.

## CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT

The department deals with the co-operative activities in the district including the organisation registration and promotion of co-operative societies. At the district level it is headed by an assistant registrar co-operative societies the deputy registrar co-operative societies, being the divisional level officer with his headquarters at Faizabad. The assistant registrar is assisted at the tahsil level by additional district co-operative officers and a senior farming inspector, each being responsible for his tahsil. The latter is responsible for co-operative farming scheme. An additional district co-operative officer looks after the credit societies and banking. There are thirty-three co-operative inspectors, of whom twenty-four are working as

assistant development officers (co-operative) and are responsible for entire co-operative activities in their blocks. Three inspectors serve as secretaries to three co-operative marketing societies and the remaining six are responsible for different schemes at the district level. There are also an assistant co-operative inspector, who government farming supervisors and a villages level worker (farming). With a view of long time projection and planning medium and long term loans were also introduced which resulted in much popularity to the co-operative movement.

#### FOREST DEPARTMENT

The district is covered by two forest divisions—the north and the south with headquarters at Gonda under eastern circle whose headquarters are at Gorakhpur. Each of these divisions is under a divisional forest officer. The divisional forest officer (North) is assisted by two assistant conservators of forest with headquarters at Gonda and Balrampur while divisional forest officer (South) has the assistance of only one assistant conservator of forest with headquarters at Gonda.

The north division has eight ranges covering 47 beats and the south division 3 ranges covering 31 beats. The work in these ranges is looked after by a number of rangers and deputy rangers and forest guards.

#### INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT

The district falls in the Faizabad region of the industries department which is under the charge of a joint director of industries at Faizabad. At the district level district industries officer looks after the work and provides technical guidance, and arranges financial and other assistance to local entrepreneurs. These include loans, subsidy purchased of machinery on hire purchase, raw material quality making of goods and formation of societies of artisans. He is assisted by an industries inspector and an industries supervisors (co-operatives).

#### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The district falls in XXIII circle of the Public Works Department with headquarters at Faizabad. The department has two divisions in the district the provincial and the departmental construction division. The former deals with construction and maintenance of roads whereas the latter with construction and maintenance of buildings of the whole district. Each division is under the charge of an executive engineer who is assisted by a number of assistant engineers.

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## CHAPTER XIV

### LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

From the available historical account it appears that local autonomy was a special feature of the ancient Hindu polity and it always endeavoured to give a reasonable measure of autonomy to local institutions like panchayats and to functionaries like the Gramika (village headmen). In this context it is reasonable to believe that viable units of self-government functioned in the villages and towns for a long time till the advent of Muslim rule when they fell into disuse for want of State patronage. In the absence of any reference regarding the existence of these institutions, in the district in particular, it is not possible to delineate the rise and fall of these institutions. The growth of local bodies, however, may be traced to a few years before and after the British occupation of the district in 1856<sup>1</sup>.

#### Rural Areas

The development of local bodies in the rural areas had been a slow process. Between 1870 and 1872 levy of a rate on land was made to finance nominated local committees, but the work remained mostly in the hands of district officers, as the nominated committees did not assume the responsibility. These committees were later replaced in 1883 by a Local Board established under the local Boards Act (Act XIV) of 1883 with greater non-official majority, elective system and enlarged resources and responsibilities. The district board then consisted of thirteen members, of whom four were by virtue of their office, nine were elected, one being returned annually from each of the three tahsils for a period of three years. The ex officio members were the deputy commissioner, who was also the chairman, and the three subdivisional officers. The work of the board comprised the management of the local educational institutions, dispensaries, vaccination, and the maintenance of local roads, ferries, cattle pounds, and veterinary establishment. Most of the functions of the board were, however, performed by official members. With the enactment of the Government of India Act, 1919 the 'Local Self-government' became a 'transferred' subject. Soon afterwards, the local District Board was set up under the U.P. District Board Act 1922. The board had no official element and had elected non-official chairmen, but it did not get the same measure of financial independence as the municipal boards enjoyed. The list of obligatory and discretionary duties of the board prescribed under the Act was large and covered the greater part of the local administration in rural areas, but the board did not find it feasible to discharge all of them. Education, cattle pounds, roads, medical and veterinary relief vaccination, ferries, and a little arboriculture almost engaged their entire attention

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1. Nevill, H. R. : *Gonda A Gazetteer*, (Nainital, 1905), p. 156

The desirability of public participation in planning and development activities, necessitated changes in the set-up of the district board which was replaced in May, 1958 by the Antarim Zila Parishad which was in turn replaced by the zila parishad in June, 1963 under the U. P. Kshettra Samiti and Zila Parishad Act, 1961.

### Urban Areas

The earliest municipal administration under the British rule was initiated for the purpose of making watch and ward arrangements through ward committees. These committees were empowered to levy and collect a tax on houses and lands for defraying the expenses. Since 1814 this arrangement continued, affecting the territory falling under British occupation, till 1837 when these committees were empowered to utilize savings from the chowkidari tax for town improvement. The existing arrangement was followed by the formation of local committees to make better provisions for purposes connected with public health and convenience and to levy a house tax. This was done under Act X of 1842, which was followed by the Municipal Act of 1850. The first legislative provision which seems to have affected this district was the North Western Provinces Municipal Improvement Act of 1868. The Act was gradually applied to all district headquarters and selected mofussil towns under the British rule and to this district in 1869 when Gonda itself was constituted a municipality followed by Balrampur in 1871. Nawabganj was constituted a municipality in 1875 and Utraula in 1876. The Municipalities Act 1873, while retaining most of the provisions of the Act of 1868, liberalised the constitution of municipal committees by an extension of the elective principle. In the meantime Bengal Chowkidari Act 1856 was applied to the towns of Katra (Birpur Katra) Khargupur Bazar and Paraspur in 1877, when the municipalities in the first two of these towns were abolished. The operations of the Act were withdrawn from Paraspur in June 1902. Colonelganj and Sakraura were constituted a single area under the same Act in June 1878 and the old municipality was abolished.

The development of municipal administration was accelerated by the enactment of the North Western Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1883, which provided for the constitution of municipal boards on a more representative principle than before, since it stipulated that official or nominated members were not to exceed one fourth of the total membership. The Act was subsequently replaced by the North Western Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1900, a notable provision of which was the establishment of notified areas. The U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, further regulated the formation and administration of municipal boards and notified areas. In the meantime a separate legislation was enacted in the name of U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914 for controlling the affairs of town areas. Earlier, the affairs of these town areas were controlled under the Bengal Chaukidari Act, 1856.

The present municipal administration is largely based on the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, which divides the executive autho-

rity between the elected members and permanent officials of a municipality. Besides, an outstanding feature of this Act was the introduction of the system of communal representation in the municipal boards, separate seats being allotted to Hindus called general, Muslims and Scheduled Castes. By an amendment made in the Act in 1949 the communal representation in elections was abolished retaining only two categories namely the general and the Scheduled Castes, and the method of election was democratised through adult franchise. Another amendment in 1953 changed the nomenclature of chairman of the board to president and provided for his direct election on an experimental basis. Indirect election of the president was, however, revived later on and the municipal area was divided into wards which elected the members. This was followed by the U. P. Nagar Mahapalika Adhiniyam, 1959, which empowered the State government to frame rules for centralisation of any post in the Mahapalikas (corporations) and municipal boards.

The municipal boards look after the work of sanitation water-supply, street lighting and public health besides the registration of births and deaths.

In 1976-77 there were 4 municipal boards, 2 notified areas, 4 town areas, 25 kshetra samitis 2,261 *gaon sabhas* (village assemblies) and a zila parishad in the district.

### MUNICIPAL BOARDS

#### Gonda

The municipal board Gonda, the oldest in the district, was constituted on 1st of July, 1869 under the North Western Provinces Municipal Improvement Act of 1868. The board, then consisted of 12 members, of whom 9 were elected and three appointed, including the deputy commissioner as chairman. The income was mainly derived from an octroi tax on imports, while other sums accrued from rents of nazul and municipal lands and buildings, from pounds, and from the sale of manure.

The town is at present administered under the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916, as amended from time to time. In 1977 there were 15 elected members and the term of the board was five years but the same year the board was superseded and placed in the charge of the district magistrate.

The area of the town at the census of 1971 was 10.57 sq. km with a population of 52,662.

**Water-supply**—Piped supply of water in the town was made available in 1961. At the census of 1971 the storage capacity of protected water supply in the town stood at 3,40,950 litres per from tube wells and overhead tanks.

Till 1976-77 the total length of the pipe-lines laid in the city was about 19 km. The water was supplied for nearly fourteen hours a day the per capita average daily supply of water being 15 gallons. There were 116 public and 1,700 private water connections in the town which supplied over 32 crore gallons of water over the year. The expenditure incurred by the board on this item of public necessity in 1976-77 was Rs. 1,17,471.

**Street-lighting**—Electricity was made available to the town in 1939. In the year 1976-77 there were 857 street light points in the town and the total expenditure incurred on this item was Rs 56,582.

**Public Health and Sanitation**—The board looks after this service in the town through a team of employees comprising two sanitary inspectors, 10 Safai Naiks, 201 sweepers, and 32 Bhisties under the over all charge of the medical officer of health of the Board. There were in all 50 kms. of pucca and kutcha drains in the town with arrangements for flushing them daily besides sweeping and cleaning of the roads within the municipal limits.

The board is also maintaining a maternity and child welfare centre in the town.

The expenditure incurred by the board on the aforesaid items of public utility was Rs 5,92,505 in 1976-77.

**Education**—The board in addition to a montessori school and a school for music, was also managing a member of primary schools till July, 1972 when all the primary schools were transferred to the Basic Shiksha Parishad under the education department of the State. The primary schools are since then being looked after by the Basic Shiksha Adhikari.

**Special Achievements**—The board has laid out and maintains two parks, the one known as Gandhi park in the main town and the other known as Sujan Singh park in Pant Nagar. The board also maintains a childrens' library named after Raja Debi Bakhsh Singh, the noted chieftain who raised the banner of revolt in 1857.

An account of receipts and expenditure of the board from 1967-68 to 1976-77 is given in Statement I (a and b) at the end of the chapter.

## **Balrampur**

The town has been administered as a municipality since June 30, 1871. In 1905 the board had twelve members, of whom nine were elected and three appointed by government, the post of chairman being held by the Maharaja of Balrampur. The chief sources of the income of the board were a tax on professions and trades, the municipal cattle-pound and the slaughter-house.

The town is being presently administered under the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916 as amended from time to time. At 1971 census the municipal town had a population of 36,191 souls distributed over an area of 8.52 sq. km. The last board had an elected membership of 18 from seven wards of the town through direct adult franchise, besides the president who was elected through a majority vote from amongst the members for a period of five years. The board, at present (1977), stands superseded and the subdivisional magistrate, Balrampur is holding its charge on behalf of the district officer.

**Water-supply**—The pipe water-supply scheme in the town was started on October 1, 1964—with the help of two tube wells and an overhead tank with a storage capacity of 3,40,950 litres. By 1976-77, 5 nearly 19 kms. of pipe-lines had been laid and the board was able to arrange supply of water for fifteen hours a day at an average per capita rate of 90 litres. There were 42 public and 1,440 private water connections in the town which, over the year, supplied nearly 1,000 lakh litres of water. The expenditure incurred by the board on this item of public necessity in 1976-77 was Rs 1,35,116.

**Street-Lighting**—The town was electrified in 1927 but the board undertook the responsibility for providing street-lights in 1947. By 1976-77 mercury lamp posts, 133 tube-lights and 263 ordinary bulbs for lighting the streets of the town had been provided. The expenditure incurred by the board on this public utility item, in 1976-77, was Rs 62,896.

**Public Health and Sanitation**—The board looks after the sanitation of the town through a team of 177 employees including two sanitary inspectors. The length of pucca and kutcha drains in 1977 was about 20 km. Arrangements exist for flushing 500 metres long drain and sweeping and cleaning of the roads within the municipal limits daily the sweepings and the refuse being utilized for making manure. The expenditure incurred on the item was Rs 4,55,641 in 1976-77.

The statements of income and expenditure from 1967-68 to 1976-77 of the board is given in table II (a and b) at the end of the chapter.

### **Nawabganj**

The place had originally been administered as a municipality since November 23, 1875. Later on it was reduced to the status of a notified area in 1904. It was then managed by a small local committee. The civic status of the place was again raised to a municipality in 1959. The last board which was constituted in 1971 consisted of 15 members elected from six wards of the town through a system of adult franchise and the president by a majority vote from amongst the members, both for a term of five years. The board, at present, stands superseded and the tahsildar,

Tarabganj is holding charge on behalf of the district officer. In 1971 the town had a population of 7,284 souls distributed over an area of 3.11 sq. km.

**Water-supply**—The water supply scheme in the town was started in the year 1965. The protected water is supplied from a tube well with an overhead tank with a capacity of 68,200 litres. By 1976-77, 5,726 metres of pipe lines had been laid connecting 21 public and 125 private connections in the town. The total quantity of water supplied during 1976-77 was 16,36,55,000 litres, the per capita daily supply of water being about 57 litres. The board spent a sum of Rs 29,587 on this item of public necessity in 1976-77.

**Street-lighting**—Electricity was made available to the town in 1960. By the year 1976-77 the town had 160 electric street light points. The street lighting of the town is under the charge of the State electricity board. An amount of Rs 11,298 on street lighting was spent in 1976-77.

**Public Health and Sanitation**—By 1976-77 the board had constructed about 2 km. of surface drains which are flushed every day. Arrangements for sweeping and cleaning of the roads daily within the municipal limits also exist. In the field of health services about 325 persons were vaccinated involving an expenditure of Rs 3,208 in 1976-77. The board also maintains a public park.

**Education**—Since August, 1972, all the junior and senior basic schools previously maintained by the board, have been transferred to the education department of the State under the district inspector of schools who is assisted in this work by a district Basic Shiksha Adhikari. An expenditure of Rs 2,626 was incurred by the board on education in 1976-77.

The statements of income and expenditure, from 1967-68 to 1976-77 of the board is given in table III (a and b) at the end of the chapter.

### **Colonelganj**

The place was formerly a municipality but since June, 1878 Colonelganj and Sakraura were constituted a single area under Act XX of 1856 and the old municipality was abolished. It became a town area in 1915, a notified area in 1918 and raised to the Status of a municipality under the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916 in 1959.

In 1971 the town had a population of 11,743 souls distributed over an area of 1.79 sq. km. The last board, which stands superseded since 1977, consisted of 15 elected members including the president, each for a term of five years.



**Street-Lighting**—Electricity was made available to the town in 1958-59. There were 132 electric street lamps in the town in 1976-77 accounting for an expenditure of Rs 11,117.

**Public Health and Sanitation**—In 1976-77 the board spent Rs 1,08,824 on public health and sanitation services excluding Rs 2,060 on vaccination. The board maintains a park for children on which it spent a sum of Rs 3,288 in 1976-77.

The statements of income and expenditure of the board from 1968-69 to 1977-78, is given in table IV (a and b) at the end of the chapter.

#### NOTIFIED AREAS

##### Tulsipur

Tulsipur was a town area in 1956. It acquired the civic status of a notified area in 1962 under the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916. During the last civic elections 12 members were elected to the local committee, who in turn elected the chairman from amongst themselves. Both, members and the chairman were elected for a term of five years. In 1971 the town had a population of 9,599 souls and an area of 2.7 sq. km.

The water supply scheme, in the town, was started in 1975 and since then about 3,630 metres of pipe lines had been laid till 1976-77 with 296 public and private water connections.

The town was electrified in 1959. In 1976-77 there were 110 electric street lamps and 40 kerosene lamps points in the town. Total expenditure incurred by the committee in this item was Rs 13,219 in 1976-77.

**Special Achievements**—The local committee maintains two public parks namely Gaya Prasad Park and Ram Lila Park. Besides this the committee is also maintaining a public library named Tulsi Pustakalaya.

The receipts and expenditure of the notified area for the last ten years is given in Statement V at the end of the chapter.

##### Utraula

Originally the place was a municipality constituted in 1876 and continued to be so till 1904. The affairs of the place were managed by a board of twelve members, of whom nine were elected.

In April 1904 it was reduced to a notified area and was managed by a small local committee of appointed members under the chairmanship of the tahsildar. The elective principle was subsequently introduced and in February, 1931 the committee consisted of four elected and two nominated members. The limits of

local body including the town extended over an area of 2.59 sq. km. and it had a population of 12,637 in 1971. At the time of the last civic elections twelve members were elected, who, in turn, elected the chairman from amongst themselves for a term of five years.

Electricity was made available to the town in the year 1959. In 1976-77 the town had 152 electric street lamps including 25 tube lights, and 2 mercury lamps. Besides this, there were 64 kerosene oil lamps also. The expenditure incurred by the committee on street lighting in 1976-77, amounted to Rs 4,200.

The committee also looks after the sanitation of the town. The expenditure incurred by the committee on sanitation in 1976-77 amounted to Rs 88,638.

**Special Achievements**—Towards public welfare activities the committee is maintaining a public park styled as 'Gandhi Park'.

The receipts and expenditure of the notified area for the last ten years is given in Statement VI at the end of the chapter.

#### TOWN AREAS

##### **Katra (Birpur Katra)**

The place had been administered under the Bengal Chaukidari Act of 1856 since 1877. Subsequently it came to be governed under the provisions of the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914.

The town occupies an area of 0.31 sq. km. with a population of 2,571 according to the census of 1971. The last committee, consisting of ten elected members, was constituted in 1971 for a term of five years. The committee at present stands superseded and the work is being looked after by the district magistrate through tahsildar Gonda.

The town was electrified in the year 1972 and in 1977-78 there were in all 32 electric street lamps, besides 8 kerosene oil lamps.

The receipts and expenditure of the town area since 1968-69 have been given in Statement X at the end of the chapter.

##### **Khargupur Bazar**

In 1877 Khargupur was an Act XX town under the Bengal Chaukidari Act of 1856 and later it was governed under the provisions of the U. P. Town Area Act, 1914 and some provisions of the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, were also made applicable to it in 1924. The area of the town is 4 sq. km. and it had a population of 4,418 according to the census of 1971. To manage the

affairs of the town area the last committee, consisting of 10 members including chairman, was constituted in 1971 through a system of adult franchise. The committee at present stands superseded and the work is being looked after by the subdivisional magistrate, Gonda on behalf of the district officer.

The town was electrified in the year 1961-62. Till 1976-77, 1978 electric street lamps have been installed and the committee spent Rs 2,252 on this item during the aforesaid year.

The committee also looks after the sanitary and conservancy services in the town and incurred an expenditure of Rs 24,435 on it in 1976-77

The receipts and expenditure of the town area for the last ten years is given in Statement VII at the end of the chapter.

### **Pachperwa**

The place was for the first time raised to the status of a town area in 1972. In 1971 the area of the town was 3 sq. km, and it had a population of 6,845. Its affairs were being managed by the subdivisional officer Balrampur, since no committee was constituted till 1976-77.

Electricity was made available to the town in 1971-72 and in 1976-77 there were in all 33 electric street lamps. Expenditure incurred on this item amounted to Rs 3,681 during the same year.

The committee also looks after the sanitary and conservancy services in the town. The expenditure incurred on this item in 1976-77 was Rs 5,467.

The receipts and expenditure of the notified area since its formation is given in Statement VIII at the end of the chapter.

### **Mankapur**

The place was for the first time brought in as a self-governing unit under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914 in 1971 and some provisions of the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916 were also made applicable to it. The area of the town is 3 sq. km, and it had a population of 4,250 in 1971. The affairs of the town area were being looked after by the subdivisional magistrate, Utraula on behalf of the district magistrate, since no committee was constituted till 1976-77.

Electricity was made available to the town in 1972 and in 1976-77 there were 87 electric street lamps in the town. Expenditure incurred on this item amounted to Rs 4,272 during the same year.

The receipts and expenditure of the town area since 1971 have been given in Statement IX at the end of the chapter.

## PANCHAYAT RAJ

In ancient days, the panchayats which were bodies of village elders, exercised administrative and judicial powers over the village community. With the advent of Muslim rule these panchayats lost their importance considerably but they were allowed to exist so long as did not come into conflict with the super-imposed Muslim system of law and order in the villages.

During the British rule the panchayats ceased to exercise any administrative or judicial powers though they continued to survive and to a certain extent control the social life of the villages. But the alien rulers soon realised the importance of the institution and they revived the panchayat system though with a western bias as a result whereof the old and traditional features were lost. The panchayats were created in the district under the U. P. Gram Panchayat Act, 1920, as elsewhere in the province, but their basis was not broad based and were meant only to suit the ruling class.

The real and effective beginning in this direction was made with the passing of the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947 which reorganised the panchayats on democratic lines, the *gaon* (village) on the modern pattern panchayat being elected on the basis of adult franchise, and delegated to them adequate powers for the administration of village community. This Act was made applicable to the district on August 15, 1949.

The development blocks which were envisaged for community development started coming into being gradually after the implementation of the First Five-year Plan in April 1951. The block development committees attached to them were advisory bodies, setup to help and advise the staff posted in the blocks for speedy implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes. The government transformed their structure by enacting the U. P. Kshettra Samiti and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961 and these Samitis (committees) became statutory bodies with wide executive and financial powers. With the passing of aforesaid Act, the three tier organisation viz., *gaon* panchayats at the base (village level) the Kshettra Samitis in the middle (development block level) and the Zila Parishad at the apex (district level) was introduced in this district.

### Zila Parishad

The Zila Parishad which has been reconstituted in 1961 after passing of the Uttar Pradesh Kshettra Samiti and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961 was, in the beginning the district board which came into existence with the Local Boards Act (Act XIV) of 1883. Earlier to this there was a district committee to manage the affairs of local self-government in rural areas of the district. The district board which had taken the place of the old district committee by the Act XIV of 1883 consisted of thirteen members, of whom four held their seats by virtue of their office, including the deputy commissioner as chairman and the three subdivisional officers, and nine elected members, one being returned

annually from each of the three tahsils for a period of three years. The work of the board was of the usual miscellaneous description, comprising the management of educational institutions, dispensaries, and vaccination, and the maintenance of local roads, ferries, cattle pounds, veterinary establishment. The following statement gives an idea of the board's income and expenditure in 1903-1904 as also its sources of receipts and the sphere of activities in the same year :—

Receipts	Amount (in Rs)	Expenditure	Amount (in Rs)
Education	6,822	General administration	2,432
Medical	3,969	Education	38,897
Miscellaneous	2,455	Medical	13,898
Civil Works	2,360	Miscellaneous	3,741
Pounds	8,427	Civil Works	1,01,962
Ferries	17,132	Pounds	2,708
		Debt	1,550
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,165</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,85,188</b>

The Zila Parishad is an indirectly elected body, the membership consisting of Pramukhs of Kshettra Samitis, representatives of these *samitis* (committees), members of Parliament and legislative assembly, presidents of municipal boards, and certain representatives of co-operative institutions. The last elections were held in November, 1974 for a term of five years. The *adhyaksha* was elected by the members of the Parishad through secret ballot for a term of five years. There were in all 91 members in the Parishad of whom 88 were elected and 3 nominated.

The functions of the Zila Parishad are almost akin to those of the old district board, including the co-ordination of the activities of *vikas-khands* (development blocks), implementation of the inter-block schemes and utilization of funds allotted by the government for the purpose of agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation co-operatives, village industries, public health, education, construction as well as repair of roads, bridges and ferries, cultural activities and welfare of children and youth.

The principal sources of income of the Zila Parishad are government grants and taxes. The income is mostly spent on general administration, medical and public health, public works, etc.

**Medical and Public Health**—The services of the entire health department of Zila Parishad have been transferred to the chief medical officer. The Parishad now looks after the vaccination and other general health facilities in the district, particularly in the rural areas and for this purpose it maintains a separate staff of one assistant superintendent of vaccination, and 28 vaccinators. Besides the Parishad also maintains 6 Ayurvedic dispensaries in the district.

**Education**—Institutions up to the senior Basic stage (junior high school) were under the control of Zila Parishad till June 1972 when they were taken over by the State government.

The receipts and expenditure from 1968-69 to 1977-78 under different sphere of activities is given in Statement X (a and b) at the end of the chapter.

### **Kshettra Samitis**

The community development blocks established in the fifties of the present century for the intensive social and economic development of the rural areas, had a block advisory committee to help and advise the extension agency. With the enforcement of the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961, the block development committee was replaced by the Kshettra Samitis in 1963. In 1976-77 the number of these Samitis was 25, one for each development block with a term normally extending to 5 years. The membership of the Kshettra Samitis consists of all the *Pradhans* of the *gaon sabhas*, chairman of the town area committees within the block, and all elected members of the Central and State legislatures representing or residing in any part of the development block or Kshettra. The Samitis also co-opt members interested in planning and development work, representatives of women and persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. The total membership of these Samitis stood at 2,261 (both elected and co-opted) in 1976-77. The Kshettra Samitis is headed by a *pramukh* (chief) and two *up-pramukhs* (deputy chief) elected by the members, and the block development officer as its chief executive authority. The Samiti is responsible for formulation and execution of the development plans of the area under its jurisdiction in respect of agriculture, horticulture, live-stock, fisheries, minor irrigation works, opening maternity and child welfare centres, prevention and control of epidemics, promotion of village industries and co-operative institutions.

Every Kshettra Samiti has three sub-committees, the *karya karini* (executive), the *utpadan* (production) and the *kalyan* (welfare) Samiti headed by the *pramukh* and the *up-pramukh* respectively. Since 1964 the services of the officers and other employees in the development blocks have been placed at the disposal of Kshettra Samitis. The Samiti acts as the co-ordinating agency for the *gaon sabhas* functioning within its jurisdiction in the implementation of schemes and programmes.

### **Gaon Panchayats**

With the enforcement of the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947 *gaon sabhas* started coming into existence in the district. By 1976-77 as many as 2,261 *gaon sabhas* had been constituted. The membership of a *gaon sabha* consists of the entire adult population ordinarily resident in its jurisdiction. A fixed number of the members of the *gaon sabha* are usually elected for a period of five years

for its executive body the *gaon panchayat*. The *pradhan* and *up-pradhan* also function as the chairman of the larger body, the *gaon sabha*. The *panchayat sevak* is the secretary-cum-executive officer of the *gaon sabha* and the *gaon panchayat*.

The functions and duties of the *gaon sabha* are manifold. They include construction, repairs, cleaning and lighting of streets, improvement of sanitation, prevention of epidemics, maintenance of buildings, lands and other property belonging to the *gaon sabha*, registration of births and deaths, regulation of markets and fairs, provisioning of drinking water and welfare of backward classes, particularly the Harijans.

For the fulfilment of these objectives the *gaon sabhas* largely depend upon voluntary contributions, and government aid. To augment their resources they have been empowered to levy taxes, rates and fee etc. The *gaon sabhas* have also been made eligible to borrow money from the State government, corporations, scheduled banks, co-operatives and other financing institutions. In the year 1976-77 the total receipts and expenditure of all the *gaon sabhas* in the district was Rs 24,98,052 and Rs 16,55,408 respectively. The following statement gives an idea of the panchayat taxes collected from 1973-74 to 1977-78 in the district :

Year	Amount (in rupees)
1973-74	20,59,210
1974-75	10,03,198
1975-76	8,95,198
1976-77	11,15,903
1977-78	11,30,505

## STATEMENT I (a)

## Municipal Board, Gonda Receipts (in rupees)

Reference Page No. 192

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property and Powers apart from taxation	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of other heads	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68	5,40,192	7,102	1,07,869	2,13,984	18,351	50,805	9,38,303
1968-69	7,88,431	6,670	98,041	2,29,451	21,163	44,587	11,88,343
1969-70	8,49,053	6,656	1,31,994	3,33,328	33,117	60,428	14,14,576
1970-71	8,54,875	8,643	1,06,052	4,26,390	29,298	91,396	15,17,654
1971-72	8,04,915	12,760	1,11,507	4,27,138	47,108	1,35,172	15,38,600
1972-73	7,19,413	10,320	1,31,572	4,60,263	2,13,390	33,764	15,68,722
1973-74	7,44,688	9,058	1,97,642	5,20,450	49,482	14,270	15,32,599
1974-75	8,10,055	10,032	1,35,434	4,35,354	1,33,265	1,09,432	16,33,572
1975-76	11,66,940	13,602	2,60,961	3,32,593	42,348	32,525	18,48,969
1976-77	9,92,637	8,922	2,95,228	3,26,224	49,675	1,23,149	17,95,835

## Statement I (b)

## Municipal Board, Gonda Expenditure (in rupees)

Reference Page No. 192

Year	General administration and collection Charges	Public safety	Public health and sanitation	Education	Miscellaneous	Total of other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68	88,139	59,809	2,44,299	1,52,296	3,27,586	24,447	8,96,576
1968-69	1,06,943	68,019	4,44,637	1,59,279	3,04,333	46,574	11,29,785
1969-70	1,04,669	69,127	5,51,931	2,30,703	3,14,742	58,443	13,29,615
1970-71	1,24,762	66,741	5,14,032	3,40,417	2,90,765	51,919	13,88,636
1971-72	1,66,069	72,978	3,68,320	3,79,401	5,77,230	1,46,088	17,10,086
1972-73	1,13,191	97,388	4,60,612	2,04,795	6,64,806	16,285	15,57,077
1973-74	1,56,004	1,07,568	5,46,707	28,557	5,17,780	68,401	14,25,017
1974-75	2,46,360	95,665	8,27,563	25,909	3,66,460	42,323	16,04,280
1975-76	2,78,122	1,18,178	7,85,047	33,959	3,48,323	1,70,141	17,33,770
1976-77	2,49,042	56,581	8,06,280	38,315	3,34,542	2,33,243	17,18,003



Statement II (a)  
Municipal Board, Balrampur, Receipts (in rupees)

Reference Page No 193

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property and powers apart from taxation	Grants and contribution and loan	Miscellaneous	Total of other heads	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68	4,15,000	56,000	1,41,500	3,80,000	4,000	10,000	10,06,500
1968-69	4,67,000	62,000	1,54,000	3,93,000	4,500	10,000	10,90,500
1969-70	6,95,970	69,000	1,91,500	2,95,000	7,000	1,500	12,59,970
1970-71	7,85,000	70,000	2,13,300	3,90,000	5,000	15,000	14,78,300
1971-72	8,93,000	65,000	2,23,000	3,40,000	15,000	5,000	15,41,000
1972-73	10,19,000	65,000	2,28,500	4,16,000	30,000	5,000	17,63,500
1973-74	10,72,000	33,000	1,29,500	1,66,900	37,500	5,000	14,43,900
1974-75	11,34,000	33,000	1,59,500	3,05,000	20,000	10,000	16,61,500
1975-76	9,25,000	33,000	89,500	3,05,000	20,000	9,000	13,82,500
1976-77	9,14,000	41,000	68,500	3,05,000	50,000	9,000	13,87,500

Statement II (b)

Municipal Board, Balrampur, Expenditure (in rupees)

Reference Page No 193

Year	General administration and collection Charges	Public safety	Public health and sanitation	Educational	Miscellaneous	Total of other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68	49,915	51,590	4,15,988	1,68,836	1,14,702	2,03,421	10,04,452
1968-69	50,656	49,320	4,51,901	1,98,313	1,34,276	2,04,421	10,88,887
1969-70	58,574	44,384	5,23,657	2,29,108	1,47,818	-	10,04,321
1970-71	58,185	65,952	6,22,318	2,84,507	1,57,190	4,10,421	15,98,573
1971-72	71,995	66,700	7,96,753	2,88,845	2,90,546	1,05,421	16,20,260
1972-73	75,873	67,316	9,57,131	4,47,174	3,30,624	1,05,221	19,83,339
1973-74	78,393	45,800	5,95,799	3,00,000	2,43,950	2,04,178	14,68,120
1974-75	1,91,451	63,216	10,99,896	50,000	1,53,154	2,04,000	17,61,717
1975-76	1,94,049	56,084	9,02,174	52,000	1,68,478	85,718	14,58,503
1976-77	1,89,400	77,500	10,83,856	5,000	1,84,762	2,39,000	17,79,518

## STATEMENT III (a)

Municipal Board, Nawabganj, Receipts (in rupees)

Reference Page No. 194

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property and powers apart from taxation	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of other heads	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1987-88	50,859	3,280	45,874	84,544	4,498	-	1,69,055
1988-89	80,373	1,833	48,808	66,477	4,244	-	2,01,735
1989-90	1,02,909	2,420	45,568	80,120	5,597	-	2,36,814
1970-71	1,22,126	2,299	38,005	65,449	4,240	-	2,32,119
1971-72	1,32,018	2,355	51,803	88,933	57,104	-	3,27,213
1972-73	1,32,559	3,021	48,217	71,760	9,015	-	2,64,572
1973-74	1,20,058	2,581	45,201	39,270	6,846	-	2,13,956
1974-75	95,385	2,817	79,899	1,40,209	8,024	-	3,26,134
1975-76	1,15,309	6,686	68,487	41,987	4,133	-	2,34,602
1976-77	1,81,888	5,950	43,418	65,567	8,412	-	2,83,233

## STATEMENT III (b)

Municipal Board, Nawabganj, Expenditure (in rupees).

Reference Page No. 194

Year	General administration and collection Charges	Public safety	Public health and sanitation	Educational	Miscellaneous	Total of other heads	Total Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1967-68	25,029	11,252	55,235	62,461	19,350	-	1,73,327
1968-89	22,846	7,557	39,124	53,908	30,110	-	1,53,545
1969-70	25,145	7,884	78,092	68,829	29,375	-	2,07,125
1970-71	28,038	11,319	81,618	65,222	33,279	-	2,19,474
1971-72	31,335	13,441	1,25,716	1,15,394	39,131	-	3,25,017
1972-73	37,296	22,064	81,476	74,088	22,459	-	2,37,383
1973-74	48,375	10,831	2,08,870	25,543	10,215	-	3,03,634
1974-75	90,806	12,574	1,74,085	46,465	6,231	-	3,30,161
1975-76	70,511	10,322	1,38,933	868	13,165	-	2,33,799
1976-77	92,115	11,298	1,85,257	2,626	19,329	-	3,10,625

## STATEMENT IV (a)

*Municipal Board, Colonelganj, Receipts (in rupees)*

Reference Page No. 195

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property and powers apart from taxation	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of other heads	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1968-69	78,945	-	11,287	35,454	1,893	13,969	1,41,528
1969-70	73,235	-	-	38,888	3,532	29,616	1,45,251
1970-71	97,031	-	-	41,831	1,560	42,344	1,82,766
1971-72	1,16,494	-	-	49,995	3,775	60,038	2,30,302
1972-73	1,18,624	-	-	58,222	8,926	69,504	2,55,276
1973-74	94,025	-	-	1,06,184	2,380	60,455	2,63,044
1974-75	89,230	-	12,092	38,583	4,270	50,588	1,94,763
1975-76	1,20,337	-	7,624	51,665	41,829	14,269	2,35,724
1976-77	2,09,916	-	9,230	60,184	14,355	52,256	3,45,941
1977-78	2,85,752	-	18,160	1,00,896	6,502	57,913	4,49,223

## STATEMENT IV (b)

*Municipal Board, Colonelganj, Expenditure (in rupees)*

Reference Page No. 195

Year	General adminis- tration and Collection Charges	Public safety	Public health and sanita- tion	Educa- tion	contri- butions	Miscella- neous	Total of other heads	Total expen- diture
1	2	3	4	6	5	6	7	8
1968-69	38,085	15,904	36,353	27,529	270	5,707	12,729	1,37,027
1969-70	46,638	14,130	39,672	28,280	-	8,419	12,926	1,50,065
1970-71	38,271	9,653	46,622	27,186	-	19,721	10,043	1,51,496
1971-72	44,862	12,413	48,309	36,318	720	23,419	22,680	1,88,721
1972-73	60,227	11,236	56,926	21,670	720	13,370	1,41,424	3,05,573
1973-74	71,066	10,003	83,547	1,680	-	4,590	87,220	2,58,106
1974-75	89,855	11,664	1,08,376	-	-	3,234	7,304	2,20,433
1975-76	58,308	17,290	1,00,334	-	-	20,204	39,591	2,35,725
1976-77	1,00,079	11,118	1,10,885	-	-	45,080	81,719	3,48,881
1977-78	1,65,896	15,825	1,71,174	-	-	20,855	64,973	4,38,723

## STATEMENT V

*Notified Area, Tulsipur, Receipts and Expenditure*

Reference Page No. 195

Year	Total receipts (in rupees)	Total expenditure (in rupees)
1968-69	1,33,346	72,695
1969-70	3,26,136	3,92,495
1970-71	2,82,182	2,65,908
1971-72	1,38,800	1,22,912
1972-73	1,51,043	1,51,105
1973-74	2,18,891	2,15,442
1974-75	2,31,967	2,65,586
1975-76	2,50,098	2,50,139
1976-77	2,73,108	2,75,239
1977-78	3,47,128	3,18,559



## STATEMENT VI

*Notified Area, Utraula, Receipts and Expenditure*

Reference Page No. 196

Year	Total receipts (in rupees)	Total expenditure (in rupees)
1968-69	79,466	82,964
1969-70	92,645	75,877
1970-71	1,15,836	98,096
1971-72	1,04,833	88,658
1972-73	1,43,228	1,60,401
1973-74	3,04,323	2,80,092
1974-75	1,57,394	1,87,583
1975-76	1,83,138	1,83,648
1976-77	1,76,958	1,83,048
1977-78	2,11,120	2,16,689

## STATEMENT VII

*Town Area, Kharagapur, Receipts and Expenditure*

Reference Page No. 197

Year	Total receipts (in rupees)	Total expenditure (in rupees)
1	2	3
1968-69	223	5,528
1969-70	8,743	8,944
1970-71	8,554	8,030
1971-72	24,648	30,391
1972-73	83,499	30,527
1973-74	50,611	45,813
1974-75	79,283	76,089
1975-76	66,177	69,481
1976-77	91,326	83,057
1977-78	72,751	61,037



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## STATEMENT VIII

*Town Area, Pachperwa, Receipts and Expenditure*

Reference Page No. 197

Year	Total receipts (in rupees)	Total expenditure (in rupees)
1	2	3
1972-73	25,015	14,250
1973-74	46,164	14,958
1974-75	81,915	57,924
1975-76	1,56,471	99,111
1976-77	1,60,787	67,437
1977-78	1,75,103	1,03,380

## STATEMENT IX

## Town Area, Manakpur, Receipts and Expenditure

Reference Page No. 197

Year	Receipts (in Rs)				Expenditure (in Rs)					
	Govern- ment grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General adminis- tration and collection charges	Public health	public works	Other heads	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1971-72	31,000	6,215	-	37,215	251	1,668	-	250	2,169	
1972-73	17,130	28,205	1,147	46,482	12,338	11,682	7,000	1,009	32,009	
1973-74	-	32,325	1,900	34,225	12,340	12,128	18,282	5,731	48,482	
1974-75	28,163	33,598	300	60,061	30,142	29,586	10,570	3,226	73,534	
1975-76	12,757	90,428	-	1,03,185	40,521	41,213	-	5,955	87,689	
1976-77	15,144	83,078	-	98,222	33,068	19,813	-	4,978	57,859	

**STATEMENT X**  
**Town Area. Katra, Receipts and Expenditure from 1968-69 to 1977-78**  
 Reference Page No. 196

Year	Receipts (in Rupees)			Expenditure (in Rupees)						
	Govern- ment grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General adminis- tration & collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other expendi- tures	Total expen- diture	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1968-69	1,717	2,724	1,834	6,275	456	2,072	-	1,393	3,921	
1969-70	1,170	2,436	1,436	5,042	517	2,117	1,244	1,340	5,219	
1970-71	1,151	2,642	1,521	5,314	511	1,862	10,000	1,217	13,590	
1971-72	7,639	3,090	17,423	28,152	1,282	2,810	-	2,124	6,226	
1972-73	15,025	4,825	2,490	22,340	2,107	6,818	9,800	1,592	20,317	
1973-74	13,420	2,695	2,602	18,717	4,753	7,225	21,479	4,894	35,351	
1974-75	14,474	1,815	3,277	19,566	3,780	10,489	9,546	5,107	28,922	
1975-76	22,005	1,507	8,383	31,895	3,131	16,257	719	117	20,224	
1976-77	16,761	7,702	7,110	31,573	5,914	18,252	3,434	3,187	30,787	
1977-78	7,239	9,270	6,573	23,082	5,666	17,625	5,527	522	29,340	

## STATEMENT X (a)

*Zila Parishad, Gonda, Receipts (in rupees)*

Reference Page No. 200

Year	Government grants	Education (including industrial and technical)	Medical and Public health	Cattle pounds	Fairs and exhibition	Total of other heads	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1968-69	65,90,339	2,50,835	484	1,18,195	6,447	5,17,834	74,84,114
1969-70	80,94,916	2,06,443	1,835	1,42,257	-	5,33,565	89,78,816
1970-71	83,32,792	1,45,361	2,794	1,32,033	2,026	6,31,943	92,48,949
1971-72	1,21,36,618	1,21,285	2,964	1,04,725	-	32,80,112	1,56,45,704
1972-73	40,44,375	65,043	3,093	82,855	2,056	27,44,168	69,41,590
1973-74	2,36,446	-	2,144	90,029	1,739	12,36,922	13,67,280
1974-75	1,36,758	-	1,271	1,01,178	1,909	7,84,693	10,05,809
1975-76	6,93,187	-	3,255	1,23,226	1,845	13,30,256	21,51,769
1976-77	4,70,907	-	4,287	1,15,876	1,906	2,84,659	8,77,635
1977-78	4,74,820	-	3,476	1,07,808	1,675	10,85,545	16,73,324

## STATEMENT X (b)

*Zila Parishad, Gonda Expenditure (in rupees)*

Reference Page No. 200

Year	General administration and collection charges	Education (including industrial and technical)	Medical and public health	Public works	Fairs and exhibition	Total of other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1968-69	2,82,769	62,12,730	69,814	7,52,039	-	1,47,132	74,64,584
1969-70	2,50,299	74,97,515	2,21,957	8,07,119	-	3,29,299	91,06,189
1970-71	2,48,241	69,38,169	2,33,285	5,18,312	-	3,76,521	83,14,528
1971-72	2,49,612	72,30,271	2,60,896	4,24,503	-	45,97,376	1,27,62,658
1972-73	2,98,656	44,07,765	1,32,645	9,51,192	-	53,34,969	1,11,25,227
1973-74	2,91,343	-	2,72,983	8,50,806	-	6,45,317	20,60,449
1974-75	5,88,634	-	4,33,756	3,56,062	-	2,93,089	16,71,541
1975-76	2,56,718	-	2,88,814	5,06,099	359	9,35,441	19,88,431
1976-77	2,31,405	-	2,14,473	4,65,480	-	3,03,248	12,14,606
1977-78	2,61,096	-	3,02,063	5,79,784	-	5,15,762	16,38,705



## CHAPTER XV

### EDUCATION AND CULTURE

#### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The system of education of the region comprising the present district of Gonda, in ancient period, was in likelihood, as elsewhere in the country, primarily the concern of the family, and the teacher the scholars usually being the Brahmanas. Under the system the scholar had to go either to the house of a teacher or to the *ashram* (hermitage) of a rishi to get his education. In course of time the importance of association and limitation was realised and the *guru-kula* (ashramite) system became traditional. This was with a view to impart education under the direct guidance and continuous personal attention of a teacher of noble character and great achievements.<sup>1</sup>

This system of education seems to have continued, in some form or the other, till the beginning of the mediaeval period when a new element, that of private *pathshalas* (schools), entered upon the scene. These *pathshalas* were generally attached to temples and the subjects taught were Sanskrit grammar, astrology, mathematics, etc. When the Muslims settled in this region they established their own *maktabs* or *madarsas* (Muslim schools) which were for Islamic learning and were attached to mosques. Those days no regular system of education was sponsored by the State and these *pathshalas* and *maktabs* were privately owned and received no regular financial aid from the government except occasional gifts of land.

With the advent of the British the State began to take interest in the general education of the people.

In this district the first effort made by government took the form of a grant of money in support of the Zila school at Gonda, which was founded in 1859 by private subscription and maintained partly by the subvention and partly by subscription from the taluqdars. The original intention was to start a school for the sons of taluqdars and zamindars but afterwards it was thrown open to all and in 1860 there were 114 students. It was managed by the district officer and a local committee. A new school house was built in 1865 at a cost of Rs 6,500 of which Rs 4,500 were raised through subscription. Other schools of a lower standard were started in 1861 at Gonda Nawabganj and elsewhere; they were supported by fees and private subscriptions. In 1863 Maharaja Sir Drigvijai Singh, established an Anglo-vernacular school at Balrampur, and introduced *halqabandi* schools at various places in his estate. The schools at Nawabganj, Gonda, and Utraula were constituted *tahsils* schools in

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1. Altekar, A.S. : *Education in Ancient India*, (Patna, 1957). p. 32

1865, but there were no government village schools till two years later. In 1868 there were only five government schools and twelve others in the district. In the same year a school committee was formed and matters improved rapidly. By 1874 there were, in addition to the four town *tahsil* schools already mentioned and two subsequently added at Paraspur and Colonelganj, 54 village and 32 private schools, with a total attendance of 3,056 pupils. With the constitution of the district board in 1884 the management of the schools was transferred to it with the exception of the high school at Gonda, which remained in the charge of the education department. In 1896 there were 116 schools in the district, of which 9 were secondary and 107 primary, with 4,998 pupils, of whom 109 were females. statistics of education for that decades since 1900 would be found in the following statement :

Year	Number of schools		Number of pupils		
	Total	Secondary	Primary	Boys	Girls
1900-01	144	8	138	6,297	221
1910-11	237	8	231	11,696	464
1920-21	453	14	339	18,450	119
1930-31	450	11	439	24,206	697

In 1904 the secondary schools included the high school at Gonda and the Lyall collegiate school at Balrampur, (at both of which students read up to the university entrance examination); the middle vernacular schools at Utraula, Nawabganj, Paraspur, and Colonelganj; and the aided mission school at Golaganj in the town of Gonda. The Lyall collegiate school at Balrampur was again placed under the management of the education department with effect from 1910. The aided schools were increasing in numbers and were doing good work. Female education, however, received but little attention. For many years there were no girls' schools in the district, and till 1904 there were but six. About 1912 the number of schools rose to 14. Of these the one at Gonda was a model girls' school maintained by the provincial fund, and the Utraula girls' school by the notified area Utraula. The schools at Anbhula, Khargupur, Colonelganj, Nawabganj, and Dhuswa were maintained by the district board, while those at Adampur, Paraspur, Tewari Bazar, and Balrampur were aided ones. The last school was started by maharaja Bhagwati Prasad Singh in April, 1908. Vernacular education up to fourth class was imparted to 157 girls in this school which was served by a lady principal and 12 lady teachers. This school was the best in the district at that time.

In addition to the aforesaid schools, both for boys and girls, there were a few private schools also in which Arabic and Sanskrit were taught. The local Aman Sabha had started a high school in Gonda in 1925 called Aman Sabha High School and a technical institution known as 'Aman Sabha Carpentry School' in 1928. The former imparted education of English up to the tenth standard and

the latter turned out boys as skilled carpenters. The administration vested in a committee of management with the deputy commissioner as its ex-officio president. In 1927 King George English School up to the eighth standard was opened at Utraula. It was maintained by endowment trust and government grant and was managed by an executive committee with the deputy commissioner as its ex-officio president.

In the year 1952 the total number of various types of schools in the district was 669 of which 14 were higher secondary schools with 5,646 students, 49 junior high schools with 4,552 students, 2 training schools with 236 trainees and one technical school with 8 students besides 603 primary schools having an enrolment of 51,961. The year 1955 saw the opening of the M. L. K. Degree College—the first in the district—at Balrampur. At the census of 1961 there were 18 higher secondary schools, 69 junior high schools, 2 training schools, and 1,095 primary schools in the district. The number of pupils in these institutions, was 11,599 and 9,213, in the first two and 221 and 77,906 in the remaining two while the number of students in the degree college at Balrampur was 337.

In 1971 the district had as many as 47 higher secondary (including 7 for girls), 116 senior Basic (20 for girls) and 1,665 (279 for girls), junior Basic schools. The following statement depicts the number of schools per 10,000 population according to the census of 1971 :

Name of town	Number of schools per 10,000 population		
	Higher secondary	Senior Basic	Junior Basic
Balrampur	1	2	7
Colonelganj	2	3	7
Gonda	1	1	5
Nawabganj	4	Negligible	8
Tulsipur	2	2	3
Utraula	1	2	1

In the direction of higher education around the same time one degree college having arts faculty and another having arts and science faculties were located in Gonda and Balrampur respectively.

Regarding impregnation of rural areas of the district with educational institutions it was found at the census of 1971 that the rural area of the district was served with 1,310 junior Basic, 72 senior Basic, and 24 higher secondary schools. The progress of general education of the district further affected till 1976-77 was that there were 53 higher secondary schools (including 6 for girls), 151 senior Basic (39 for girls), and 1,740 junior Basic schools (354 for girls). The number of students in these schools during the same year was as follows :

Stage	Number of students		
	Boys	Girls	Total
Higher Secondary	31,241	4,331	35,572
Senior Basic	18,850	3,844	22,694
Junior Basic	2,77,093	1,28,788	4,05,881

The number of male and female teachers employed was respectively 1,182 and 173 in higher secondary, 675 and 112 in senior Basic, and 4,330 and 425 in junior Basic schools during the same year.

A statement showing progress of the district towards general education and literacy during last ten years (from 1967-68 to 1976-77) is given in Statement I at the end of chapter.

In the field of higher education one more degree college had been opened making the total number of such colleges in the district three in 1976-77.

### GROWTH OF LITERACY

In 1881 the number of literate males was 0.39 per cent and of females 0.05 per cent. Progress of literacy as found at successive enumerations till 1931 was as under :

Year	Percentage of literacy among	
	Males	Females
1891	4.8	.05
1901	6.03	0.09
1911	0.53	0.02
1921	0.42	0.04
1931	0.49	0.03

The progress of literacy in the district afterwards was considerable as would be evident from the statement that follows :

## GROWTH OF LITERACY

*(Percentages of their respective populations)*

Year	Rural			Urban			District		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1951	11.4	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1961	18.0	2.3	10.6	49.9	22.6	37.4	19.7	3.2	11.7
1971	20.45	3.4	12.48	50.53	22.78	40.21	22.6	4.7	17.1*
			18.13*			43.63*			21.7*

\*Data given in numerator show corresponding percentage of the State

Of the total number of literates and educated in 1961, 71.2 per cent were without any educational level, 22.6 per cent were of primary and Basic stage and only 6.2 were of stages of high school and above.

The following statement gives the educational standards of the population of the district according to the census of 1961 :

Educational standard	Persons	Males	Females
<b>URBAN</b>			
Total population	1,01,256	55,189	46,067
Literates without educational level	19,982	12,813	7,169
Primary or junior Basic	10,665	8,353	2,312
Matriculation or higher secondary	5,817	5,050	767
Technical diploma not equal to degree	24	10	14
Non-technical diploma not equal to degree	96	89	7
University degree other than technical	1,219	1,082	137
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree :			
Engineering	15	15	—
Medicine	37	34	3
Agriculture	20	20	—
Veterinary and dairying	1	1	—
Teaching	48	47	1
<b>RURAL</b>			
Total population	19,71,981	10,17,629	9,54,352
Literates without educational level	1,53,339	1,33,965	19,374
Primary or junior Basic	44,462	41,892	2,570
Matriculation or higher secondary and above	7,743	7,549	194

## EDUCATION OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

Particular attention was first given to the education of the Scheduled Castes and other Backward classes in 1937-38. Prior to this only a small beginning was made in 1930, when the education department formulated a scheme for award of stipends to students of the Scheduled Castes. It was realized that with nearly over four crores people of the State, toiling in ignorance and poverty it was not possible to achieve significant socio-economic progress without bringing them at par with the rest of the community.

For the purpose, the State government has provided many and varied incentives like exemption from tuition fees, award of stipends and scholarships and financial assistance for the purchase of books and stationery. Other facilities made available to them are free boarding and lodging and relaxation of time and upper age limit for admission to certain educational institutions as well as public services.

The following statement gives an account of the educational standards of the Scheduled Castes population of the district according to the census of 1961 :

Educational standard	Males	Females
<b>URBAN</b>		
Literate (without educational level)	1,293	705
Primary or Junior Basic	355	162
High school or higher secondary	214	38
University degree other then technical degree	4	—
<b>RURAL</b>		
Literate (without educational level)	8,867	226
Primary or Junior Basic	2,591	29
High school and above	209	—

An idea may be had regarding the number of students of these groups benefitted by the scholarships, in 1976-77, awarded by the State government, through Harijan and social welfare department.

Educational levels	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes		Other Backward Classes	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Junior Basic	72	22	630	86	—	—
Senior Basic	1,243	34	121	3	366	27
Higher Secondary (up to class X)	630	12	25	—	283	10
Higher Secondary (up to class XII)	285	15	5	—	39	5
Graduation	181	6	4	—	1	—
Post-graduation	8	—	—	—	—	—
Technical education	33	2	1	—	26	—

The amount spent on the students of these groups in the district in the shape of scholarships during the last three Plan periods is given below :

Plan periods and educational levels	Scheduled Castes (Amount in Rs)	Scheduled Tribes (Amount in Rs)	other Back-ward Classes (Amount in Rs)
Third Five-year Plan			
1. Up to class X	2,72,012	23,684	51,555
2. Above class X	4,27,858	828	9,305
Fourth Five-year Plan			
1. Up to class X	5,38,890	84,350	1,81,243
2. Above class X	9,58,987	17,374	40,168
Fourth Five-year Plan (1975-76 to 1976-77)			
1. Up to class X	5,49,349	88,347	2,11,882
2. Above class X	8,23,578	16,854	68,910

Besides the financial assistance provided by the government, they were also granted concessions in fee, the loss thus caused to the institutions being reimbursed by the government.

#### GENERAL EDUCATION

General education now includes education from the junior Basic stage to the university stage. The pattern and system of education is uniform all over the State.

#### Junior and Senior Basic Stage

Education at the junior and senior basic stages is based on the Wardha scheme of education initiated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1937. It was adopted by the State government with certain modifications. The term Basic now includes education at the junior Basic stage from class I to V and the senior Basic stage from class VI to VIII. Mahatma Gandhi held that education ought to draw out the best in pupil in body, mind and spirit. It implied that free and compulsory education for a term of eight years be provided by the State, that the mother-tongue be the medium of instructions, that the process of education centre around some useful handicraft enabling the child to channelize his creative ability the moment his training is begun, and that every school be self-supporting.

In order to ensure academic and administrative efficiency Basic education has been taken over by the government since 1972. The management of the Basic schools has accordingly been transferred from the local bodies to the Basic Shiksha Parishad. Control at the district level is vested in the Zila Shiksha Samiti and at the village level in the Gaon Shiksha Samiti. A district Basic education officer and an additional Basic education officer (women) are posted in the district. The following statement gives the number of schools and students in various categories in the district in 1976-77 :

Type of institutions	No. of schools		No. of students	
	For boys	For girls	Boys	Girls
Junior Basic	1,386	354	2,77,093	1,28,788
Senior Basic	112	39	18,850	3,844

### Reorientation Scheme

The reorientation scheme aims at introducing agriculture as a main craft in the schools, besides other local crafts. Every reoriented school is provided with an instructor called the extension teacher with the duties to teach agriculture or other local craft, as the case may be, from class VI to VIII.

This scheme, in the district was in force, in 1976-77, in 16 junior Basic schools and 6 higher secondary schools in which agriculture was taught as a compulsory subject. Each of these schools maintains a small model farm for practical instructions in agriculture. Total land attached to these schools under the scheme in 1976-77 was 97 ha.

### Higher Secondary Education

This stage covers schooling after the senior Basic stage up to class XII, and is divided into two sub-stages. The first being known as high school i. e., up to class X and the second as intermediate covering classes XI and XII.

With the establishment of the board of high school and intermediate education. U. P., in 1921, the high school examination is held after completing the courses of study up to class X and the intermediate examination after class XII. The duties of the board are to prescribe courses of study and conduct examinations for these standards. All affairs concerning higher secondary education at the district level are administered by the State's education department through a district inspector of schools.

The district, in 1976-77, had 53 higher secondary schools including 6 for girls. Of these 25 schools were imparting education up to class XII and the remaining up to class X. In the same year all schools put together had an enrolment of 31,241 boys and 4,331 girls and 1,182 male and 173 female teachers were employed to teach them. To encourage female education, it was made free up to high school standard.

A list of higher secondary schools in the district in 1976-77 is given in Statement II at the end of the chapter.

### Higher Education

There were in all 3 degree colleges in the district in 1976-77 imparting higher education to both boys and girls. Of these one,





**Statue of Baba Narhari Das imparting Education to Mahatma  
Tulsi Das, Pakska, Tahsil Tarabganj**

also imparted education up to post-graduate level. Earlier these colleges were affiliated to Gorakhpur University, but since 1975 the jurisdiction has been transferred to the Avadh University, Faizabad. The privately managed degree colleges meet their financial commitments out of income derived from fees, public contributions, resources of the managing body and the recurring and non-recurring grants received from government.

The following statement gives further details about all these degree colleges of the district in 1976-77 :

Name and location of institution	Year of establishment	Faculties	No. of teachers		No. of students
			Male	Female	
M.L.K. Degree College, Balrampur	1955	Arts, Science, B. Ed.	81	5	1,483
Lal Bahdur Shastri Degree College, gonda	1966	Arts, Science, B. Ed.	25	7	949
Acharya Narendra Deo Degree College, Babhnan Gonda	1973	Arts,	9	—	595

### Professional and Technical Education

In the olden times before mechanisation of industries there was hardly any scope for institutions for professional and technical education. In that age of handicrafts skill in the production of goods was acquired through apprenticeship and dexterity passed on from generation to generation. But with the advent of machine technology and its application to spheres of production, propagation of professional and technical education became imperative.

A beginning in this direction was made in district in 1958 with the opening of an industrial training institute at Gonda, under the State Training and Employment Directorate. The institute at present (1978) is imparting training in trades like electrician, fitter, mechanist, turner, wireman, welder, and Shorthand, the number of trainees being less than 50 in each trade. The training is for a certificate course of two years in each trade.

During the Third Five-year Plan period a government secondary technical school was opened at Gonda by the Board of Technical Education, Uttar Pradesh, in 1964. This school, with a capacity of 60 trainees, imparts education in Hindi, English, Mathematics and Science simultaneously with the training in machine-shop, fitting, turning, blacksmithery, moulding, welding, carpentry and sheetmetal trades and prepares trainees for three years craftsman level certificate course. Besides a government polytechnic was also opened at Gonda in 1965 with 30, 45 and 45 seats respec-

tively in three years' civil, electrical and mechanical engineering diploma courses. In 1976-77 the actual number of trainees admitted was 31 in the civil and 50 and 46 in the remaining two disciplines. This polytechnic is affiliated with Madan Mohan Malaviya Engineering College, Gorakhpur.

### Teachers, Training

To meet the growing demand of trained teachers for Basic schools, in the district, the education department maintains two training institutions. One of these is located at Balrampur and is exclusively for girls with 48 trainees on rolls each for first and second year of the two years, training course. In 1976-77 the total number of teachers, on the staff of this institution, was 11. The trainees are awarded B. T. C. (Basic Teaching Certificate) after successful completion of the course of study. The other training institution is at Utraula and is meant for boys only. The number of training on rolls, in it in 1976-77, was 50 each in first and second year of the training course and the number of teachers on the teaching staff of the institution was eleven. A model school was also attached to both of these two training institutions for practical training.

In addition the two degree colleges situated at Gonda and Balrampur have courses of study for the degree of Bachelor of Education (B. Ed.).

### ORIENTED EDUCATION

#### Sanskrit

There were 19 Sanskrit *pathshalas* (schools) in the district in 1976-77, all affiliated to the Sampurnanand Sanskrit Vishva Vidyalaya, Varanasi. The recognised subjects under which these Sanskrit *pathshalas* impart education are Sanskrit literature and Vyakaran (grammar). These *pathshalas* prepare students for under-graduate, graduate and post-graduate Sanskrit courses in the recognised subjects. The Statement III given at the end of the chapter shows some particulars about these *pathshalas* as were found in the year 1976-77.

#### Arabic and Persian

In the district there were only five Arabic *madarsas* (schools) in 1976-77. These schools are recognised by the board of Arabic and Persian Examinations at Allahabad for the purposes of conducting examinations, in various courses. The registrar of the board, in his capacity as inspector Arabic Madarsas also exercises supervision and administrative control over these institutions. These schools prepare students for Munshi and Kamil examinations in

Persian and Maulvi, Alim and Fazil examinations in Arabic. The Highest degree of Fazil is awarded after an examination in five subjects—namely Arabic literature, Sunni theology, Shia theology, Makoolat (philosophy) and Tibb (medical science). Besides conducting examinations these schools also impart education in Urdu and Hindi up to primary classes (class I to V) called *Tahlania* (lower classes). Similarly classes VI and VII in these schools are categorised under the name of *Fuoqaniya* (middle classes) and the rest higher classes are *Alia*.

Some particulars pertaining to these institutions in the district in 1976-77 are given in the following statement.

Name and location of the school	Year of establishment	Number of pupils	Number of teachers
Jamia Arabia Anwarul Quran, Balrampur	1936	481	18
Madarsa Fazle-Rahmania, Pachperwa	1942	327	12
Jamia Anwarul-Uloom, Tulsipur	1950	240	9
Madarsa Darul-Uloom-Faruqia, Madhnagar	1953	201	9
Jamea Ahle-sunnat Fakhru-Uloom, Balrampur	1958	309	12

#### MEN OF LETTERS

In the literary field the district can boast of having produced a number of worthies who attained some measure of literary fame. Beni Madho Das of Paska in this district who died in 1699 A.D. was a disciple and companion of Tulsi Das. He wrote the life of his mentor in the form of poem entitled the *Goshain Charitra*. Shib Arsel of Deotaha was a pupil of Shambhu Nath Mishra of Asothar in Fatehpur, and wrote several works on composition. He was tutor to Jagat Singh Bisen, of Deotaha, who wrote two treatises on rhetoric and poetry about 1770. Another was Madan Gopal Sukul, born in 1809, who attended the court of Arjun Singh of Balrampur. Maharaja Drigbijai Singh of Balrampur, besides being a noted patron of poets and literature, was himself a Hindi poet and was known with the pen name of 'Bhup Vijai' in the field of literature.

Ghagh Pandit was born at Gonda in 1530. Though he was very little read yet his practical knowledge in the field of ethics and astrology rendered him great popularity, particularly amongst peasantry of the State. His sayings and verses on ethical principles for day to day life of common man and scientifically calculated principles of agricultural practice are still unforgotten amongst rural folk. On the basis of his merits he was patronised by Akbar. He preferred Avadhi dialect for his poetry.

Ganga Prasad Srivastava, a very popular name in the field of Hindi literature also belonged to Gonda. He was born on April 23, 1890 at his maternal place in the town of Chhapra (Bihar). His father a railway clerk, shifted from Patna to Gonda and settled there. Up to intermediate he was educated at Gonda and thereafter joined B. A. at Canning College, Lucknow. He started his literary career right from his college life when his famous story *Lambi Darhi* was written. Besides a story writer he is more known as a humorous writer and dramatist. It was he who wrote first radio drama. Some of his well known dramas are *Dumdar Aadmi*, *Idhar Janana Udhar Mardana* and *Paidaishi Magistrate* etc.. His lively and humorous temperament is adequately reflected in his witty writings for which he won a wide acclaim.

Asgar Husain 'Asgar' (1884-1936) a notable Urdu poet made Gonda his home since his childhood. Although he had no proper schooling yet his poetic talents and ambitions soon acquired for him a good knowledge of Urdu and Persian to launch him on his career as a Urdu poet. Two notable collections of his poetic works have been published under the titles of *Nishat-i-sah* and *Sarod-i-zindgi*.

Sikander Ali 'Jigar' (1890-1960) was another distinguished Urdu poet who made Gonda his home after leaving college at Lucknow. He is popularly known as Jigar Moradabadi. At Gonda Jigar came in contact of Asgar Husain and was so much impressed with his literary merits that he became his disciple and settled at Gonda for the rest part of his life. Jigar earned great fame as a lyricist. Some of his notable collections of works have been published under the titles of *Dag-i-jigar*, *Shota-i-noor* and *Aatish-i-gul*.

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STATEMENT I  
GENERAL EDUCATION

Year	Junior Basic education				Senior Basic education				Higher secondary education			
	Number of schools	No. of students		Number of schools	Number of students		Number of schools	Number of students		Number of schools	No. of students	
		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
1967-68	1,677	1,55,368	80,103	93	12,908	1,331	32	6	23,298			4,121
1968-69	1,679	1,64,429	1,66,035	97	15,304	1,668	33	6	25,542			4,383
1969-70	1,704	1,90,194	1,06,069	108	14,503	1,940	33	6	27,561			4,995
1970-71	1,704	1,90,395	1,06,075	108	14,605	1,943	38	6	28,803			4,437
1971-72	1,719	1,86,394	83,356	110	14,566	2,033	38	6	26,675			4,675
1972-73	1,719	1,91,395	83,205	117	17,105	1,843	44	6	29,561			4,734
1973-74	1,740	2,23,023	83,605	151	18,797	2,072	45	6	21,241			4,331
1974-75	1,742	2,11,123	1,01,237	151	18,917	3,875	46	7	31,000			5,135
1975-76	1,742	2,09,007	1,01,011	153	18,925	3,911	46	7	31,148			5,263
1976-77	1,799	1,27,281	41,263	168	19,762	3,721	46	7	31,335			5,296

STATEMENT II  
Higher Secondary Schools

Name of school and location	Year of establi- shment	Number of teachers	Number of students
1	2	3	4
Fakhruddin Government Intermediate College, Gonda	1882	35	682
Thompson Intermediate College, Gonda	1926	54	1,776
Gandhi Vidya Mandir Intermediate College, Gonda	1944	66	2,109
Gandhi Vidyalaya Intermediate College, Railway Colony, Gonda	1960	34	1,300
Kanahaya Lal Intermediate College, Colonelganj	1952	46	1,148
Tulsi Smarak Intermediate College, Paraspur	1956	33	1,284
Subhash Intermediate College, Umari Begumganj	1959	25	550
Maharaja Debi Bux Singh Intermediate College, Belser	1959	31	915
Janta Intermediate College, Amdahi	1955	18	548
Gandhi Vidyalaya Intermediate College, Nawabganj	1947	38	994
D. A. V. Intermediate College, Nawabganj	1936	22	825
A. P. Intermediate College, Mankapur	1942	38	1,258
Bhaya Haribana Dutt Intermediate College, Dhanepur	1957	24	729
King George Intermediate College, Utraula	1929	36	970
Bhartiya Intermediate College, Utraula	1957	22	827
M. P. Intermediate College, Balrampur	1883	40	1,170
D. A. V. Intermediate College, Balrampur	1941	44	1,419
Bhagwati Adarsh Vidyalaya Intermediate College, Balrampur	1955	29	761
Swatantra Bharat Intermediate College, Tulsipur	1948	26	773
Lokmanya Tilak Intermediate College, Pachperwa	1956	31	690
Rama Shankar Bhartiya Intermediate College, Mathura Bazar	1959	20	617
Bhartiya Intermediate College, Katra Bazar	1962	16	526
Ganga Prasad Misrilal Intermediate College, Kauria	1962	17	700
Rajkiya Balika Intermediate College, Gonda	1913	46	1,180
Balrampur Balika Intermediate College, Balrampur	1908	48	1,421
Sarjoo Prasad Girls Higher Secondary School, Gonda	1942	32	1,001
Jigar Memorial Higher Secondary School, Gonda	1967	12	404
Swami Viveka Nand Higher Secondary School, Gonda	1964	10	298
Marwand Higher Secondary School, Gonda	1967	15	458
Sikshak Bandhu Higher Secondary School, Balrampur	1967	7	178
Balika Higher Secondary School, Colonelganj	1964	14	441
Sri Gur Nar Hari Higher Secondary School, Pure Tewari	1964	8	157
Maharaja Devi Bux Singh Secondary School, Tarabganj	1965	10	400

1	2	3	4
James Harvey Higher Secondary School, Nawabganj	1915	20	630
Nagar Palika Balika Higher Secondary School, Nawabganj	1963	8	226
Janta Higher Secondary School, Patijiya Buzrg Gonda	1964	14	471
Swami Narain Higher Secondary School, Chhapia	1960	13	296
Prem Dhan Higher Secondary School, Maskanwa	1962	16	470
Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Maskanwa	1963	13	253
Vidya Nagar Kisan Higher Secondary School, Motiganj, Gonda	1959	15	473
Kisan Higher Secondary School, Sadullh Nagar	1963	21	503
Haji Ismail Higher Secondary School, Sadulla Nagar	1971	14	435
B. P. Shukla Higher Secondary School, Rehra Bazar	1962	14	453
Rajendra Nath Lahri Higher Secondary School, Dumaria Dih	1964	11	433
Sant Sahaj Higher Secondary School, Babaganj	1957	12	520
Maharani Devendra Kumari Balika Higher Secondary School, Puraini Tal	1966	15	373
Basant Lal Higher Secondary School, Tulsipur	1955	20	554
Fazle Rahmania Higher Secondary School, Pachperwa	1966	10	220
Gandhi Adarsh Higher Secondary School, Kharanpur Bazar	1959	22	605
Janta Higher Secondary School, Umathok	1963	11	417
Kisan Higher Secondary School, Bhabhuan	1960	10	308
Janta Higher Secondary School, Kauria	1961	20	527
Mata Prasad Sahu Higher Secondary School, Kooknagar Grant	1965	10	407

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STATEMENT III  
Sanskrit Pathshala, Gonda

Name and location	Year of establi- shment	Number of students	Number of teachers
1	2	3	4
Maharaja Pateshwari Prasad Singh Sanskrit Pathshala, Balrampur	1872	36	4
Vidwatparishad Sanskrit Pathshala, Colonelganj	1913	36	4
Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Bhagwatiganj, Balrampur	1913	49	5
Swami Ram Milan Das Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Kalidham, Gonda	1970	35	5
Sri Radha Krishna Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Devi Patan, Tulsipur	1944	33	3
Guru Narhari Smarak Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Diwakar Nagar, Paska	1965	28	3
Sri Adarsh Sangved Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Imilia Gurdal, Bargaon	1913	20	2
Sri Malviya Kamlakar Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Khargupur Bazar	1961	26	3
Rani Jamwanti Kunwari Sanskrit Pathshala, Dhanepur	1934	24	3
Sanatan Dharm Sanskrit Pathshala, Nawabganj	1910	44	3
Tulsi Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Dariyapur, Sheetalganj Grant	1925	54	2
Sri Ram Sanskrit Pathshala, Paraspur	1902	35	3
Rani Sarfaraj Kunwari Sanskrit Pathshala, Bargadikot	1893	31	5
Sri Laxmi Narain Sanskrit Pathshala, Sheoram, Rampur Tegraha	1928	37	4
Sanskrit Shiksha prasar Sri Ram Janki Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Rani Bazar, Bargaon	1897	25	2
Bhartiya Sanskrit Pathshala, Katra Bazar	1958	36	4
Negeshwar Saraswati Sanskrit Pathshala, Shahpur Dhanawan	1935	65	3
Janta Sanskrit Pathshala, Dinkarpur	1963	58	3
Ganesh Sanskrit Pathshala, Perrhin Kauria	1963	8	2

## CHAPTER XVI

### MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

#### Medical Facilities in Early Times

In ancient times diseases were attributed to sin, crimes and vices and disobedience of religious laws and the cures often prescribed were offering of prayers, fasting, animal sacrifice and invocation of dities and super natural powers.

Ayurveda, which literally means the science of life, is the earliest known system of medicine which is still prevalent in the district for treating physical ailments. Physicians of this system, known as *vaidyas*, specialize in diagnosing disease by feeling the pulse, and use herbal and other medicines such as *bhasms* (oxides of certain metals) etc. Kautilya in his Arthashastra has referred to post-mortem examination, which shows that surgery was also fairly advanced. Affluent people of charitable disposition extended financial help to such physicians and looked after their material comforts out of piety and such *vaidyas* in their turn did not charge fee from the poor people, taking it to be a part of their pious duty. For several ailments particularly those relating to women and children, there was hardly any remedy, and infirmities like insanity, blindness and leprosy were almost beyond cure. Customary services during maternity were rendered by semi-skilled mid-wives. Environmental sanitation, however, seldom received proper attention of the residents.

During the Muslim rule, the Unani system of medicine based on Arabic and Greek systems was introduced practitioners of the system being known as *hakims*. *Jarrah* (surgeon barbers) took to surgery and treated sores, etc.

With the establishment of British rule, the allopathic system of medicine was introduced, which has in course of time now become the most popular, as elsewhere, although the Ayurvedic, the Unani and homoeopathic system are also prevalent.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

The registration of births and deaths was attempted at an early date, but the system at the beginning was very imperfect, and it was not till 1871 that the present arrangements were introduced.

#### Death-rate

From 1872 to 1881 the average annual death-rate was 19 per thousand which went up 30.7 per thousand in the following decade. From 1892 to 1901 the number of recorded deaths was much higher,

owing partly to more accurate registration and partly to successive epidemics of fever and cholera. The annual average for the period was 33.7 per thousand. The years 1892 and 1894 being worst years, there were severe outbreaks of cholera and the number of deaths was well over 60,000 in each year. From 1901 to 1910, the death-rate averaged 47.69 per thousand as a result of unprecedented mortality in 1908. During the period from 1910 to 1930 the death-rate fluctuated from 48.46 per thousand in 1918 to 20.2 in 1930. During the fifties, the range was from 25.1 in 1951 to 13.43 in 1960 and in the following decade it was from 8.4 in 1964 to 4.2 in 1970. During the period from 1971 to 1978 the death-rate continued to fall and only 3,385 persons died in 1977.

### Birth-rate

From 1881 to 1890 the birth-rate averaged 34.89 per thousand. This small excess of births over deaths was more than compensated by a large infant mortality, the result being shown in the great decrease of the population at the following census of 1891. Further, in only five out of the ten years did the number of births exceed that of deaths, a phenomenon which some what strikingly illustrates the general unhealthiness both of the district and of the decade. The following years had been much more favourable, while the death-rate had greatly fallen, the proportion of births had shown a marked increase (45.24 per thousand in 1899). In each of the following three decades the maximum birth-rates were 46.47 in 1904, 45.80 in 1913 and 29.3 in 1927. During the fifties and 1960 the birth-rates varied from 14.33 in 1951 to 9.97 in 1960 and in the following decade it varied from 12.4 in 1964 to 8.8 in 1967. During 1977 the total number of births was 8,239.

### Infant Mortality

Infant mortality referred to in this chapter denotes deaths of children of less than one year and the infant death rate, to the number of infant's deaths per thousand live-births in one calendar year.

Generally the death of the infants was the largest during the first few weeks of their lives, due to such causes as birth injuries and congenital parasitic diseases. It was quite alarming till 1957. From 1957 to 1960 the maximum infant mortality was 1,956 in the year 1958, while the minimum was 712 in 1959. The position has improved in recent years as would be apparent from the following figures :

Years	Total number of Infants' deaths
1	2
1963	222
1964	50
1965	—
1966	81
1967	—

1	2
1968	107
1969	1,192
1970	901
1971	95
1972	6
1973	77
1974	76
1975	37 (Urban only)
1977	32

#### DISEASES COMMON TO DISTRICT

The common diseases which accounted for the mortality of the people of the district, were the fevers of all types, respiratory diseases, diarrhoea, dysentery, cholera, plague and small-pox which appeared periodically and were endemic in the past, but are now showing a declining trend due to the various preventive and curative measures adopted by the people and the government.

#### Fever

As usual fever heads the list of the killer diseases. It includes all cases in which fever is the predominant symptom rather than the cause of death. Consequently, in the absence of better diagnosis, pneumonia and many other forms of sickness are accounted for under this head. From 1872 to 1881 nearly 73 per cent of the recorded deaths were assigned to this cause, and in the following ten years the proportion was 70 per cent. The figures remained fairly constant in each year. Between 1892 and 1901 there were several violent epidemics of fever, notably in the wet seasons of 1894 and again in 1897, when the vitality of the people was lowered on account of famine and consequent malnutrition. During this period over 72 per cent of the deaths were ascribed to fever. In the following decade the variation on the number of deaths was from 26,752 in 1907 to 37,801 in 1908. Between 1910—20 the minimum deaths from fever were 23,627 in 1914 and the maximum 56,223 in 1918. In the next decade the highest number of deaths was 33,570 in 1921. In the fifties the maximum number of deaths from fever came down to 18,305 in 1951 and the minimum to 10,855 in 1960. Deaths from fever have since declined, as the following statement will indicate :

Years	Number of deaths from fever
1967	5,708
1968	6,020
1970	5,322
1971	891
1972	382
1973	431
1974	348
1975	301
1977	160

## Dysentery and Diarrhoea

These diseases occur in the form of bowel and stomach complaints and are attributable mostly to insanitary conditions and unsatisfactory arrangements for drinking water. With the enforcement of sanitary measures such as disinfection and cleaning of wells and drinking water sources, the incidence of these diseases has decreased. In the last decade of the last century the highest number of deaths from bowel complaints was 445 in 1897 and the lowest was 82 in 1898. During 1901-1910 the highest mortality was 98 in 1903, but in the second decade of this century it rose to 157 in 1919. Between 1921-1930 the highest number of deaths from bowel complaints was 101 in 1921. During 1951-1960 the maximum deaths were 484 in 1960 and the minimum 203 in 1959. The number of deaths due to bowel disorders for certain years are given below :

Years	Number of deaths from bowel complaints
1907	26
1970	10
1971	15
1973	11
1975	11
1977	2

## Respiratory Diseases

These diseases generally lead to temporary or permanent infirmities, and in few cases they hasten deaths. During 1951-60, the maximum deaths were 638 in 1951 and minimum were 198 in 1960. The mortality from 1970 to 1975 was as below :

Years	Number of deaths from respiratory diseases
1970	138
1971	8
1972	—
1973	133
1974	108
1975	37 (Urban-
1977	34 only)

## Epidemics

**Plague**—With the exception of a single case in May 1898, plague did not make its appearance in the district till February, 1903, when a few cases occurred near Lakarmandi. The disease soon

died out, but towards the end of March of the same year Gonda became infected followed by Nawabganj. In April, 74 deaths were reported from the district, but the total fell to 16 in May, while at the end of the month the district was free from the disease. However, a more serious outbreak occurred in the following October, both at Gonda and in various parts of the district, especially Colonelganj. As a preventive measure disinfection campaign was extensively carried out and the people were induced to take up temporary abodes in groves and other places. During the last three months of the year 589 deaths were recorded, but this number was exceeded in January 1904, when plague spread north to Utraula and elsewhere, resulting in an extensive migration of the inhabitants. As before, the disease remained in the district till the hot weather, but it could not spread due to general disinfection and segregation measures. From 1901 onwards the highest figure was 1,898 in 1904. In the second decade of the century the maximum number of deaths from plague were 3,252 in 1918. It disappeared after 1951 after claiming 39 lives.

**Small-pox**—Small-pox was a formidable disease which took many lives whenever it visited the district. In the early years at times it assumed the form of an epidemic of great intensity. Due to local superstition the preventive measures were generally viewed with disfavour. The annual average number of deaths for the ten years ending 1881 was over 3,000 or more than 13 per cent of the whole recorded mortality. From 1882 to 1891 the proportion was lower, being only 9.6 per cent, but would, indeed, have been far less but for the terrible epidemic in 1885, the worst on record in this district, when 24,600 persons were said to have died from this disease. Since that time there had been no unusually bad outbreaks except in 1897, when the death-roll reached the high figure of 5,490. This was more than half the total number of cases between 1892 and 1901, the average for the decade being only 1,077 annually, or little more than 2 per cent of the recorded mortality. In the second decade of this century the maximum number of deaths from small-pox was 142 in 1919, and in the third decade the highest incidence was 320 in 1926. Between 1951-1960 the maximum number of deaths was 645 in 1958, while it was zero in 1956. During the years 1959 and 1960 the number of deaths was 182 and 6 respectively.

For the eradication of small-pox the national small-pox eradication programme was launched on 2nd October 1962. The technique was to vaccinate the entire population during the year. This considerably reduced the incidence of the disease, but it gradually increased in subsequent years because of inadequate vaccination coverage. With the assistance of the Government of India and the World Health Organisation, an intensive active search and containment campaign has been launched in the State since October, 1973. Active searches were conducted from house to house every month in every village and town to determine active foci of small-pox, which were subsequently contained by total vaccination of the affected as well as the surrounding areas. The movement of the patients was also restricted and concentrated; follow-up of the area

was done for the next six weeks. This methodology was successful in eradicating the disease. The surveillance activities for detection of fever with rash cases, are being continued.

### THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF SMALL-POX

Eradication visited the State and the district in April, 1977, and declared the disease as eradicated.

**Cholera**—Cholera had appeared regularly in the district every year, and had been responsible for a large number of deaths since 1875. The disease appeared to be endemic but from time to time violent epidemics had occurred. These outbreaks had frequently been ascribed to the great gatherings at the Devi Patan fair, but its occurrence had become rarer since active measures had been taken to improve the sanitary arrangements at these assemblages. Quite a number of the visitors at the fair were from the hilly parts of Nepal, who were not conscious of the need of hygienic conditions—both personal and environmental. The mass of human beings collected together were, until stringent measures were taken to ensure cleanliness, a potential source of disease. Between 1872 and 1881 cholera accounted for 11.5 per cent of the total recorded mortality; there were severe outbreaks in 1873, 1876 and in the two following years. Again in 1881, over 6,000 deaths were registered. During the ensuing decade there were only two bad epidemics in 1886 and 1888, the latter being responsible for over 10,000 deaths. During the whole period, however, the average mortality from cholera was only 7.2 per cent of the total deaths. The improvement was not maintained in subsequent years. From 1891 to 1896 the annual mortality, inclusive of those from this cause, was over 3,000, while in 1893 it amounted to more than 16,000, and again in 1895 to more than 14,000. There was but little cholera in 1898 and the next year was comparatively free, but another serious epidemic occurred in 1900 and the average for the ten years worked out at over 10 per cent, an exceptionally high figure as compared with other districts of Avadh. In this respect Gonda closely resembled Kheri and, indeed, all the other submontane districts in which the water is near the surface and the depth of the wells comparatively small, rendering contamination difficult to avoid. Disinfection of drinking water, prohibition of sale of exposed food and anti-cholera inoculation was resorted to whenever the disease was located. Between 1901 and 1930 the number of deaths in each epidemic year is given in the statement that follows:

Epidemic Years	No. of deaths
1906	14,485
1911	11,210
1913	4,480
1918	5,880
1921	16,077
1928	3,394
1929	2,502
	6,256

Incidence of the disease decreased in the following two decades.

From 1951 onwards there have not only been no outbreaks, but the total number of deaths due to the disease has also been nominal. The mortality has been decreasing considerably due to the improved sanitary arrangements and other protective measures.

#### OTHER DISEASES

##### Infirmities

Other diseases comprise all the diseases not mentioned earlier. Number of deaths due to other diseases have been considerable even in the seventies. Some efforts were first made at the census of 1981, for compilation of statistics of infirmities when the numbers of lepers, deaf-mutes, lunatics, and blind persons were ascertained. In 1907 the total number coming under this head was 2,127 a lower figure than in any other part of Avadh except Kheri. Of the whole number 979 were blind, 699 deaf and dumb, 300 affected with leprosy, and 149 insane. The number of deaf-mutes was unusually large, although it was exceeded in Bahraich, Almora and Gorakhpur, in the State. The infirmity was undoubtedly connected with goitre which was most common in the hills. Both goitre patients and deaf-mutes were chiefly found in the Tarabganj tahsil. A very large number of persons died of other diseases in 1977 when the figures was 3 185 while only four persons died of accidents and injuries.

#### ORGANISATIONAL SET-UP

Prior to 1948 there were separate departments for medical and public health activities, but these were amalgamated in that year under a directorate for better cohesion and control. In July, 1961, however, a separate directorate was established at Lucknow for the development and effective supervision of Ayurvedic and Unani institutions and services. Local administration of these institutions, nevertheless remained with the district medical officer of health, now designated deputy chief medical officer.

Formerly the civil surgeon and the district medical officer of health, respectively, headed the medical and public health organisations in the district. In July 1973, the departments of medical and public health were again reorganised in the State, abolishing the posts of civil surgeon and the district medical officer of health. Under the new set-up, in the district a chief medical officer has been appointed who heads the entire medical, public health, and family welfare programme organisations in the district. He is assisted by three deputy chief medical officers in his work. Superintendents of the district hospital (male) and the women's hospital are the controlling authorities of medical, health and family welfare programme in their respective institutions.

The municipal medical officer of health are responsible for public health activities within their municipal area. The rural area has been divided amongst the three deputy chief medical officers for (all medical) health, and family welfare programmes. Special



health programmes like drives against malaria, filaria, etc, are looked after by separate officers who are directly responsible to the respective programme officer at the State level.

At the level of primary health centre a medical officer is in overall incharge of the medical, health, and family welfare activities. In the execution of family welfare and maternity and child welfare programmes, he is assisted by another medical officer,

There are 25 primary health centres in the district one each at the block headquarters.

### Hospitals

There are nine hospitals in the district, of which five are major and provide extensive facilities for treatment. The following statement gives some information about these hospitals.

Other hospitals include police hospital and the railway hospital at Gonda, and two private hospitals located at Birpur Katra and Utraula.

The following statement gives certain information about the public hospitals :

Name of with location hospital	Doctors (No.)	Strength of staff	No. of Beds			No. of patients treated	
		Other staff (No.)	For men	For women	For children	Outdoor	Indoor
<hr/>							
<i>State</i>							
District Hospital Gonda	8	Pharmacists-8 Nurses-12	117	47	10	57,933	4,522
District Women's Hospital, Gonda	2	Pharmacists-4 Nurses-5 Midwives-1 House visitor-1	124	124	—	33,314	4,062
Women's Hospital Balrampur, Gonda	1	Pharmacist-1 Nurses-2 Midwives-1	—	45	—	5,863	838
Memorial Hospital Balrampur, Gonda	2	Pharmacists-5 Nurses-4	74	18	4	18,977	1,955
<hr/>							
<i>Private aided</i>							
Sitapur Eye hospital	1	Dresser-1 Refractionist-1	28	28	—	17,111	7,631

## Dispensaries

The following statement gives the relevant details about the existing dispensaries in the district, each of which is staffed by a doctor or two and has two to four assistants.

Location of dispensary (State)	Year of establishment
<b>Allopathic</b>	
Vargadi, Gonda	1949
Pipra	1951
Gugoli	1951
Mathura Bazar	1951
Female dispensary, Tulsipur	1955
T. B. clinic, Balrampur	1955
T. B. clinic, Gonda	1955
Leprosy centre, Gonda	1956
Tikri	1972
Female dispensary, Utraula	1972
Female dispensary, Mankapur	1972
Babhanan	1973
Ramnagar Tarhar	1973
Pure Tiwari	1974
Female dispensary, Tarabganj	1978
Simli Mohamadpur	1978
Hathiagarh	1978
Vishnupur Vishram	1978

Municipal and local fund dispensaries are located at Sadullah Nagar, Dhanepur, Dhanawa and Kharagupur

Location of dispensary (State)	Year of establishment
<b>Ayurvedic</b>	
Vangai	1941
Paras	1941
Maghaganwa	1941
Retwagara	1942
Paska	1948
Rehra Bazar	1948
Machhgaon	1950
Katra Bazar	1956
Duwaha Bazar	1956
Umri Begamganj	1955
Jhalidham	1974
Sarvangpur	1979
Datali	1979
Dhitrapsingh	1980
Hathiagarh	1981
Dhobaharai	1981
Itai Rampur	
<b>Homoeopathic</b>	
Babhanjot	1982
Jarwa	1986
Bakatwa Kala	1974
Mujehni Balapur	1975
Vangai	1975
	1978

## Primary Health Centres

To extend medical facilities to the rural population, the Government has established 25 primary health centres, one in every development block. An additional primary health centre also functions at Nand Nagar Khajuria. The medical officer in charge of primary health centre is responsible for preventive and curative treatment and control of epidemics and sanitation, etc. He is assisted by a sanitary inspector, one health visitor, 4 vaccinators, and 4 midwives besides another medical officer exclusively for family welfare programme and maternity and child welfare work. Each primary health centre has under it an allopathic dispensary and a maternity and child welfare centre at its headquarters and a few sub-maternity centres at different places in each development block. Since the implementation of the Gram Swasthya Yojna on October 2, 1977, a medical officer for this scheme, having Ayurvedic and Unani qualifications, has been posted in each primary health centre.

## Maternity and Child Welfare Centres

Maternity and child welfare activities in the district, as elsewhere in the State, have come a long way since the time of untrained *dais* and lack of medical attention and facilities for anti-natal and post-natal care, which contributed largely to higher incidence of mortality among women and children till late fifties of this century. Since 1958, the government embarked upon a policy to establish maternity and child welfare centres in the district. These centres are equipped with aids and devices to educate married women in planned parenthood and each is served by a health visitor, a midwife and a *dai*. Family welfare programme literature and contraceptives are also made available free of cost to married couples. The following statement gives the location of maternity centres under each primary health centre with sub-centres attached to each. Each of these centres is provided with facilities for family planning, maternity and child welfare.

Name of controlling maternity centre (Primary health centre)	Name of maternity sub-centres
1	2
Quajidewar Itiathoke Katra Bazar Haldhermau Mujehwa	Lalpur, Bhabhanikango, Narayanpur Sehuni, Sarkand, Srinagar Seharia, Dubhababazar, Jamthara Kathola, Gaoakhurd, Tikoli Matwaria, Lakhimpur, Tribhawan Nagar
Rupaideh	Madhawanagar, Rupaidih village, Bisu purbal bharla
Pandrikol	Ramwapur Shyam, Khiraora Moha, Dhauoli
Tarabaganj Belsar Paraspur Nawabganj Wagirganj Colonelganj	Bangaon, Chandipur, Kindhora Admapur, Sidhoti, Barauli Charsari, Utraula, Dugurwa Lalpur, Mahadeva Tulsipur Majha Karda, Magwa, Durjapur Lalemau, Dhanawa, Chandra-Bhanpur

1	2
Bhabhajot	Avosan, Koopnagar, Hathlagarh
Mankapur	Machaligaon, Motiganj, Dinkarpur
Maskanwa	Shitalganj, Khajuri, Sabrapur
Utraula	Mohanjot, Mehli, Imallabanghusara
Sriduttganj	Chamarupur, Bishrampur, Kappoa Sheripur
Gaindasbujurg	Itiarapur, Bakebh awai, Piddiabujurg
Rehra Bazar	Budhipur, Achalpur, Chaudri, Khari-kamsoompur
Balrampur	Ramnagar, Rachora, Bhikhapur
Tubipur	Premnagar, Maharajganj, Shekhuria
Pachperwa	Lakminagar, Basantpur, Khohargadi
Gasari	Khamariya Bhagwanpur, Gignihwa
Sheopura	Bardaolia, Baldeonagar, Bhadurganj Bazar.

Since 1973 training of auxiliary nurse and midwives is conducted at the auxiliary nurse midwife training centre Gonda. Each trainee gets a stipend of Rs 75 per month for a training period of two years. The following statement shows the number of trainees admitted and trained in the last three years.

Total admitted	No. successful	Total admitted	No. successful	Total admitted	No. successful
1975-76	1975-76	1976-77	1976-77	1977-78	1977-78
61	52	33	27	30	24

### Family Welfare

The population explosion during the last few decades has been causing serious concern to the Government. The gains which accrue from the implementation of the Five-years Plans are nearly nullified by the increase in the population. In order to arrest the abnormal growth of population, the family welfare programme was introduced in the district in the closing years of the fifties of this century. In 1965 concrete measures were taken to popularise the concept of a small family through films, placards, posters and personal contacts. The chief medical officer is in charge of the entire family welfare programme in the district which is implemented through the family welfare centres attached to each primary health centre and supervised by the medical officer in charge.

The statement below indicates the achievements made under the family welfare programme in the district from 1975-76 to 1977-78 :

Year	Vasectomy	Tubectomy	Loop	Medical termination of pregnancy
1975-76	1,805	497	2,245	306
1976-77	7,872	1,309	2,090	451
1977-78	6	22	239	248

### Vaccination

In early days ravages of smallpox were very extensive and vaccination was the sole preventive measure which was undertaken at the government dispensaries on those who desired it. But it was not till 1805 that active measures were taken in this direction when a regular vaccination staff was organised. The Vaccination Act, 1880, which made primary vaccination compulsory for children in municipal areas, notified areas, and in a number of town areas, was enforced in the district. This showed that the epidemic of 1885 tended largely to enhance the popularity of preventive measures, which upto that time had been generally unpopular. For the decade ending 1904 the average number of successful primary vaccinations was 34,800 annually, showing an enormous increase over the figures of the preceding ten years. In 1904 it was estimated that over 17 per cent of the population were protected by vaccination, but this figure showed room for great improvement, as Gonda was in this respect still behind all the districts of Avadh except Bara Banki and worse results were only obtained in Azamgarh and Farrukhabad of all the districts of the Uttar Pradesh (United Provinces). At present the chief medical officer is in-charge of the work of vaccination and is assisted by his three deputies and other staff posted at the primary health centres. The following statement gives the number of persons vaccinated from 1975 to 1978 :

Year	Total number of persons vaccinated	No. of primary vaccinations	No. of revaccinations
1975	3,35,529	1,16,431	2,19,098
1976	2,31,803	68,825	1,62,978
1977	3,53,470	1,19,010	2,34,460
1978 (April & May, 1978)	54,936	17,497	37,439

### Prevention of Food and Drug Adulteration

The deputy chief medical officer is the licensing authority for food establishments and drug stores in the district. All municipal officers of health in the municipalities are responsible for the work in the urban areas. An idea may be had regarding enforcement work done and prosecutions launched to check food and drug adulteration in the district from 1975 to 1977.

Year	Samples collected		No. of samples found adulterated		No. of cases in which prosecutions launched	
	Food	Drug	Food	Drug	Food	Drug
1975	356	25	143	1	116	Nil
1976	310	47	93	6	39	Nil
1977	752	86	206	2	277	Nil
					(includes cases of 1975 & 1976)	

### Malaria Control and Eradication Programmes

With the launching of National Malaria Eradication Programme in U.P., a hyper-endemic unit at Gonda was created and established in May 1959. This eradication programme was divided under the four phases—attack, surveillance, consolidation and maintenance. Presently the district is under the maintenance phase. The main object of the programme under this phase is watch and vigil. Besides the launching of modified plan of malaria eradication in 1977 the participation of people was also encouraged. To implement the work already being done by 29 malaria clinics, about 250 drug distribution centres and 400 fever treatment depots were established in the district in the remote and inaccessible areas. As many as 8344 fever cases were treated through them and 3185 blood smears were collected out of which 5 cases were found positive in 1977.

### National Filariasis Control Programme

National filaria control programme unit was established in the district in 1972, through the work could be implemented from September, 1973 only. Under the scheme the spraying of oil for the destruction of mosquito larva, was carried out in the ponds, tanks, drains, etc. The staff performs the work of collections, identification and dissection of the mosquito besides collection of blood smears of the 10 per cent of the population. An idea may be had regarding the achievements of the scheme during the period 1974 to 1977.

Particulars	1974	1975	1976	1977
Blood slides Collected (No.)	207	57	648	839
Persons found infected (No.)	14	9	32	30
Percentage of infection rate	16.6	12.28	11.57	7.8
Percentage of disease rate	6.8	12.2	4.93	4.3
Persons treated with antifilaria tablets	24	7	75	70

Night clinics were also started in January, 1977. About 80 per cent of the patients come from the rural areas.

## CHAPTER XVII

### OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

#### LABOUR WELFARE

After the attainment of Independence, various schemes were taken up for the welfare of the labour class. Different welfare programmes undertaken under these schemes, by and large, aim at providing service benefits to labour including guaranteed minimum wages, social security, security for old age, collective bargaining through the medium of recognised trade unions, medical and maternity facilities, provision for proper and safe working conditions, payment of bonus and of compensation in certain circumstances, canteen facilities, recreation, leave, holidays, housing, holiday homes, etc. Settlement of industrial disputes is done by the conciliation board functioning at regional headquarters at Faizabad.

In 1945 a separate labour department was constituted at the headquarters of the State Government and in 1947 a regional conciliation officer was posted at Faizabad for the districts of Faizabad and Gonda. The labour laws and allied matters are administered by an assistant labour commissioner assisted by an additional regional conciliation officer, an assistant trade union inspector, a chief investigator (all stationed at Faizabad) and 2 labour inspectors at Gonda.

Labour welfare work in the district is looked after mainly by the two labour inspectors who ensure proper enforcement of labour laws make inspections, enquire into complaints, try to resolve disputes to prevent strikes and lock-outs and prosecute the defaulting employers. The factories inspector inspects factories under the Factories Act, 1948, to ensure due observance of rules by the owners. Similar duties are performed by the boiler inspector in respect of 57 boilers installed in the district.

Primarily the regional conciliation officer's work is prevention and settlement of industrial disputes by negotiation and conciliation. He can also make recommendations in respect of a case being found suitable for adjudication unless the parties are agreed for arbitration.

The assistant labour commissioner is also an important functionary in the labour set-up at the State level. He is also the prescribed authority under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, and the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 and as such, he has to function and exercise the powers of a court in cases of claims due or delayed for payment. He is also the assistant housing commissioner under the U. P. Industries Housing Act, 1955 and makes allotment of residential quarters to the industrial and other workers. Besides being workmen's

compensation commissioner under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, he forms a conciliation board, conducts conciliation proceedings and makes recommendations and references under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. These are some of his important functions. He presides over the regional welfare committee which is an employers-workers union, an institution constituted to develop a sense of enthusiasm, co-operation and sportsmanship.

Both the State and the Central Governments have enacted a number of laws for the benefit of labourers and their dependents. Some of the important labour Acts in operation in the region covered by the district are briefly described under the following section.

### Labour Welfare Legislations

After the British had established themselves in this region (1856), a number of statutes were enacted for the amelioration of the conditions of the working classes, the first being the Apprentices Act, 1850, the object of which was to enable the children to learn trades and crafts for employment. The Fatal Accidents Act, 1853, was passed to provide compensation for workers in case of death when on duty.

Regarding industrial disputes, the earliest legislation was the Employers and Workmen (Disputes) Act, 1860, which aimed at speedy disposal of disputes. It was modified by the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, which also provided for the establishment of a court of enquiry and a conciliation board for examining and settling disputes. In 1947, the Government of India enacted the Industrial Disputes Act, following which the State Government also passed the U.P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. Such of the disputes as are not resolved by persuasion, mediation or negotiation are referred to the industrial tribunal or the labour court, the decision of which is binding on the parties.

For improvement of the working conditions of industrial workers, various legislations were enacted. The first Indian Factories Act, 1881, was passed after some labour unrest in 1877. It provided welfare measures for child labour and prohibited the employment of children below seven years of age completely, while those between 7 to 12 were not permitted to work for more than 9 hours a day. The next Factories Act was passed in 1891, providing for labour welfare and the inspection of ventilation and sanitation for factories. The Factories Act of 1911, provided for limited hours of work, period of rest, interval, safety and prohibited employment of women during night. On the recommendations of the Royal Commission for labour, the Factories Act, 1934, was enacted to provide additional facilities for workers. It made the government responsible for the administration of the Act, a chief inspector of factories was also appointed under it.

The Factories Act of 1948 which replaced all the earlier legislation on the subject provided regulated working conditions including hours of work, leave with wages, safeguard against occupational diseases, health, hygiene and welfare measures like the



maintenance of first-aid appliances, and facilities for can'teen cool drinking water etc. near the place of work.

After Independence in 1947, the government took greater interest in promoting the welfare of labour, and a number of legislations were enacted. By 1972 there were 14 labour legislations in operation in the district. Among these seven Acts (passed before 1947), viz., the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the Indian Trade Union Act, 1926, the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Employment of Children Act, 1938, the U. P. Maternity Benefits Act, 1938, and the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1947 are still on the statute book after being amended from time to time to suit the changing conditions. The remaining seven Acts enacted after 1947 were the Factories Act, 1948, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, the Uttar Pradesh Industrial Establishment (National Holidays) Act 1961, the U. P. Dookan Aur Vaniya Adhistan Adhiniyam 1962, and the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

In 1976, as many as 1,719 contraventions of different provisions of these acts were detected, and 1719 prosecutions, as per details below, were launched.

Name of Act	No. of inspections carried out	No. of contraventions	Amount fined (Rs)
Industrial Employment (S. O.) Act, 1948	16	-	-
Factories Act, 1948	15	3	500
U. P. Industrial Establishment (National Holidays) Act, 1961	10	-	-
U. P. Dookan Aur Vaniya Adhistan Adhiniyam Act, 1962	891	55	6,525
Minimum Wages Act, 1948	740	46	3,885
Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961	22	1	50
Payment of Bonus Act, 1965	25	2	-

The amount of compensation which was paid during the period 1973 to 1975 under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, consequent to accidents in course of employment resulting in disablement or death is given below :

Year	Fatal cases		Disablement cases	
	No. of cases	Amount of compensation paid (in Rs)	No. of cases	Amount of compensation paid (in Rs)
1973	Nil	-	Nil	-
1974	Nil	-	1	1,680.00
1975	Nil	-	Nil	-

## TRADE UNIONS

The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, provides for the registration of trade unions. It empowers the registrar of trade unions headquartered at Kanpur to scrutinise the working of trade unions, obtain returns and to consider applications for registration of new unions or withdrawing the recognitions already accorded. The trade union inspector guides the trade unions, and the implementation of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926.

The trade unions are corporate bodies which function in the interest of their members and aim at furthering good relations between employers and employees. They strive to improve the economic, moral and social living conditions of the workers, ensure payment of fair wages, maintenance of healthy living and working conditions and the provision of proper medical and educational facilities for their children.

A list of registered trade unions is given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

### Labour Welfare Centre

A labour welfare centre was established in 1972 at Patel Nagar, Gonda under a welfare superintendent, who is responsible for its day to day activities. The centre is provided with an Ayurvedic dispensary, a sewing class, indoor and outdoor games, a reading room, a library and a maternity and child welfare centre. Medical aid is rendered by whole time medical officer; a midwife and a *dai* looks after the maternity centre, and an instructress after the sewing class.

### Holiday Home

A Holiday Home was established at Mussoorie in 1962 with the help of the U. P. Sugar and Power Alcohol Industries Labour Welfare and Development Fund. In the beginning the workers of only the sugar factories benefited from this home but later on the right was extended to workers employed in other factories also.

### OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME

The old-age pension scheme was introduced in district Gonda on December 1, 1957, to provide some measure of social security to destitutes aged 70 years or more, having no means of subsistence whatever and had no relations bound by custom or usage to support them. Its scope was liberalised in February, 1962, when the definition of the term destitute was extended to include persons with a monthly income of Rs 10, and the age of eligibility was reduced to 65 years. In 1965, a person with a monthly income of Rs 15 was also included in the definition of the destitute and the age of eligibility in the cases of widows, the crippled or the physically infirm rendered totally incapable of earning a living was reduced from 65 to 60 years. The amount of monthly pension was also increased from Rs 15 to Rs 20. The scheme was further liberalised in January, 1972 and the rate of monthly pension was raised to Rs 30

and since September, 1975 the income limit for eligibility was raised to Rs 30. Since April 1, 1976, the amount of pension payable to each pensioner has been raised to Rs 40 per month.

The scheme in its initial stages was under the administrative control of the labour commissioner, Kanpur, who sanctioned the pension. Since September 1, 1975, the scheme has been decentralized and now the district magistrate is the pension sanctioning authority.

The benefits of this scheme are not available to beggars, medics and inmates of poor houses.

Till December 1973 as many as 154 persons had availed of the benefit under the scheme. Of these 108 were females and 46 males.

In May, 1976, the total number of beneficiaries had come down to 141, there being 85 females and 56 males.

### PROHIBITION

Though the district is not dry efforts by officials as well as non-official agencies continue to inculcate in the people the habit of abstinence.

Government efforts include restriction on the hours of sale of spirituous liquor and intoxicants, increase in the number of dry days, fixation of maximum quantity of liquor which can be sold to an individual at a time. Persuasive methods used are education of public against the use of intoxicants through mass contacts, and exerting social and moral pressures. The excise department has been taking various steps to discourage addicts from indulging in intoxicant drinks in the form of propaganda such as display of posters, distribution of pamphlets, exhibition of cinema slides, painting of slogans on State buses and other transport vehicles and publicity regarding temperance in important fairs and social gatherings.

### ADVANCEMENT OF THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

In 1950, the Harijan Sahayak department was set up to formulate and implement schemes for the welfare of members of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. In 1957, a district Harijan welfare officer was posted in the district whose designation was changed to Harijan and Social Welfare Officer on August 1, 1961, when the Harijan Sahayak and Social Welfare departments were integrated.

Members of the Scheduled Castes, who were considered as belonging to the Depressed Classes during the British rule, have been mostly outcasts of the local society. A half-hearted beginning was made in 1930 with a scheme for award of stipends to students belonging to the Scheduled Castes. However, it was only with the advent of Independence that concrete steps were taken for their amelioration and in 1947, the U. P. Removal of Social Disabilities Act was passed ensuring to members of such castes the unrestricted enjoyment of social and religious liberties. The Untouchability (offence)

Act, 1955, enforced a complete ban on the age-old practice of untouchability, redeeming the dignity of mankind. The government threw open all avenues of employment and public services to members of the Scheduled Castes. In government services the percentage of reservation was raised from 10 to 18. In the same year upper age limit for the Scheduled Caste candidates was also raised by 5 years for recruitment to gazetted posts too, as had already been done for non-gazetted posts in 1952. Government keeps a watch over the progress in recruitment of the Scheduled Caste candidates to various posts. Their quota has also been fixed in regard to promotions. They are also given concessions in application and nomination fees while applying for certain posts.

Advances and loans to members of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes for various purposes such as agriculture, irrigations, industries and construction of houses, etc. are freely granted. They also receive priority in distribution of land for construction of houses, business premises and retail licenses of essential goods. A whole time district Harijan and social welfare officer, whose office was created in 1961, promotes the welfare of these people.

The Statement II at the end of the chapter gives an idea of the financial assistance provided by the government and the number of beneficiaries.

### Scholarships

The State Government also awards scholarship and stipend to the students belonging to the Scheduled Caste, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. The amount is given in Statement III at the end of the chapter from 1965 to 1977.

### U.P. Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation

For the economic uplift of the Scheduled Castes the U. P. Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation was established in the year 1976-77. In the same year an amount of Rs 8,200 was sanctioned as subsidy to the Scheduled Castes to enable them to expand their industrial units. Besides this the desirous parties belonging to this community are also given loan facilities through banks for expansion of their industries. In 1977-78 an amount of Rs 4,875 was advanced under this scheme.

The District Harijan and Social Welfare Department established an Aashram type school at Gonda in 1966, where free boarding, lodging and education from class I to VIII is provided to the students of the Scheduled Tribes. In the year 1976-77 the school had on its staff a superintendent, an assistant superintendent and a psychologist, with 140 students on roll, the total expenditure incurred being Rs 62,520.

## Reimbursement Grant

The Government also advances reimbursement grants to these classes the details of which are given in Statement IV at the end of the chapter.

## Other Grants

Other grants given to the institutions and others of these classes are detailed in Statement V at the end of the chapter.

## CHARITABLE ENDOWMENT

There are twelve trusts in the district endowed for religious, charitable or educational purposes and are registered under the charitable Endowment Act, 1890. A brief account of these shall be found in Statement VI at the end of the chapter.

## Muslim Trust

**Shia Waqfs**—There are ten *waqfs* (trusts) in the district registered with the Shia Central Board of Waqfs, U. P. Lucknow, created mainly for religious, educational and Charitable purposes. A brief account of these *waqfs* is given in Statement VII at the end of the chapter.

**Sunni Waqfs**—There are 105 *Waqfs* (trusts) in the district registered with the Sunni Central Board of Waqfs, U. P. Lucknow in 1981. Majority of the *Waqfs* function for charitable, educational and religious purposes.

## Welfare of Ex-servicemen

For the welfare of ex-servicemen a District Soldiers', Sailors', and Airmen's Board is functioning in the district since 1943. It works under the control and supervision of director, Soldiers' Welfare, U. P. The work of the board at the district level is supervised by a Secretary who is a paid employee and an ex-serviceman. He works under the over all control of the district magistrate who is ex-officio President of the board. The board as elsewhere, provides various facilities to ex-servicemen and their families and assists in their rehabilitation. These facilities include grant of pension, scholarships, relief grant, employment, medical treatment, settlement of accounts, permits for controlled commodities, settlement of disputed cases, priority in allotment of land free legal advice, etc.

Assistance rendered to ex-servicemen and their wards during the last five years is given in the following statement :

Year	Nature of assistance given and no. assisted			
	Employment	Financial	Scholarship to students	Land
1972	16	16	14	-
1973	13	22	155	17
1974	7	12	146	24
1975	31	24	75	-
1976	60	30	175	44

## STATEMENT I

## Trade Unions, 1977

Reference Page No. 243

Sl. Name of Trade Unions with location No.	Date of registration	No. of Members
Babhnan Sugar Mill, Mazdoor Union, Babhnan, Gonda	26.5.1947	128
Balrampur Chini Mill, Mazdoor Union, Balrampur, Gonda	30.7.1947	527
Sugar Mill Workers Union, Tulsipur, Gonda	24.9.1947	435
Swatantra Chini Mill, Karamchari Union Tulsipur, Gonda	29.1.1956	237
Mazdoor Sangh, Nawabganj, Gonda	7.3.1960	162
Uttar Pradeshiya Panchayatraj Mantri Sangh, Balrampur, Gonda	1.6.1961	60
Zila Cinema Employees Union, Balrampur Gonda	29.9.1961	35
Narang Distillery and Brewery workers Union, Nawabganj, Gonda	31.1.1962	153
Chini Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Balrampur, Gonda	15.3.1962	354
Nagar Kshettra Samiti Karamchari Sangh, Gonda	1.9.1962	Not Available
Shramik Sangh Chini Mill, Tulsipur, Gonda	18.1.1964	206
Sugar Mill Mazdoor Union, Sugar Factory, Nawabganj, Gonda	10.2.1965	343
Distillery Mazdoor Sangh, Nawabganj, Gonda	14.1.1969	69
Narang Breweries Shramik Sangh, Nawabganj, Gonda	2.1.1971	70
Rashtriya Chini Mill Shramik Sangh, Nawabganj, Gonda	13.5.1971	249
Narang Breweries and Distillery Labour Association, Nawabganj, Gonda	13.2.1973	129
Vidyut Karamchari Sangh, U. P. (Gonda Va Bahraich Division)	8.11.1973	35
Balrampur Sugar Workers Union, Balram- pur Gonda	28.7.1975	412
Sugar Mill Labour Association, Nawabganj, Gonda	2.7.1975	68

## STATEMENT II

## Financial Assistance To The Scheduled Castes, etc.

Items of assistance	Third Five-year plan 65-66 to 69-70		Fourth Five-year plan 70-71 to 74-75		Fifth Five-year plan 75-76 to 76-77	
	Expendi- ture (in Rs)	Number of persons benefited	Expendi- ture (in Rs)	Number of persons benefited	Expen- diture (in Rs)	Number of persons benefited
1	2	3	4	5	6.	7
Construction of Houses	S.C. 7,000 D.T. 2,000 S.T. 96,000	7 2 8	2,11,000 21,000 1,37,800	211 21 96	80,000 6,000 32,000	80 8 20
Agricultural development	S.C. 3,500 D.T. 10,000 S.T. 19,500	7 845 39	1,33,000 18,000 9,200	241 35 172	25,000 6,000 9,000	25 8 9
Cottage industries	S.C. 27,000 D.T. 2,000 S.T. 19,500	104 6 85	1,07,000 14,000 77	355 47 204	- 4,000 98,000	- 4 30
Construction of wells	S.C. 52,000 D.T. - S.T. 20,000	104 - 17	2,22,195 - 60,500	337 - 48	96,710 - -	30 - -
Land for house or for house construction	S.C. 2,000 D.T. - S.T. 5,000	4 4 12	5,500 24,000 5,000	8 16 10	- - 1,50,000	- - 30
Abolition of the custom of carrying night soil on the head	-	-	9,000	-	-	-
For organising Cooperatives.	S.C. - D.T. - S.T. 1,000	S.C. - D.T. - S.C. 2	S.C. - D.T. - S.T. 47,000	S.C. - D.T. - S.C. 2	S.C. - D.T. - S.T. 3,960	S.C. - D.T. - S.T. 2

S.C.-Scheduled Castes

D.T.-Denotified Tribes

S.T.-Scheduled Tribes

## STATEMENT III

## Amount of Scholarship Given to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes

		Third Five year plan 65-66 to 69-70			Fourth Five year plan 70-71 to 74-75			Fifth Five year plan 75-76 to 76-77			Reference Page No 245
Castes, Tribes etc.		Amount (in Rs)	Number of beneficiaries		Amount (in Rs)	Number of beneficiaries		Amount (in Rs)	Number of beneficiaries		
1		2	3	4	5	6	7				
Scheduled Castes	Post-matric	4,27,658	959	9,66,946	1876	8,45,755	1,062				
	Pre-matric	2,72,012	2,472	5,38,690	75,517	5,49,349	3,513				
Scheduled Tribes	Post-matric	828	3	17,374	34	16,854	22				
	Pre-matric	23,664	681	94,350	2,691	88,347	18,397				
Other Backward Classes	Post-matric	9,305	32	51,476	149	88,179	141				
	Pre-matric	51,555	715	1,81,243	2,327	2,11,882	1,687				
Momin Ansar	Post-matric	300	2	17,393	50	17,522	31				
	Pre-matric	8,304	57	8,890	98	4,717	34				
Other Backward Classes on the basis of income	Post-matric	12,847	27	25,561	62	21,750	31				
	Pre-matric										
Handicapped		894	14	1,224	10	3,086	23				



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Denotified Tribes	Post-matric Pre-matric	408	23,818	603	26,806	234
Scholarship for Barwar	Post-matric Pre-matric	13,200	16,500	789	6,504	194

## STATEMENT IV

## Reimbursement Grant To Scheduled Castes etc.

Reference Page No. 246

Castes, Tribes, etc.	Third Five-year plan 65-66 to 69-70		Fourth Five-year Plan 70-71 to 74-75		Fifth Five-year Plans 75-76 to 76-77	
	Amount (in Rs)	Number of stu- dents benefited	Amount (in Rs)	Number of students benefited	Amount (in Rs)	No. of students benefited
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Scheduled Castes (from class VII to X)	4,61,978	7,942	7,35,794	10,264	2,58,904	2,944
Scheduled Tribes	4,174	73	14,956	198	10,310	145
Scheduled Caste pre-matric reimbursement grants	8,686	103	17,886	156	5,645	28

## STATEMENT V

*Scholarship According To Educational Standard (1976-77)*

Reference Page No. 246

Educational Standard	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes		Other Backward Classes	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	
Junior Basic	72	22	630	86	-	-
Senior Basic	1243	34	121	3	360	27
Higher Secondary (up to class X)	630	12	23	-	283	10
Higher Secondary (Up to class XII)	285	15	5	-	39	5
Graduation	181	6	4	-	1	-
Post-graduation	8	-	-	-	-	-
Technical Education I. T. I., B. T. C etc. Polytechnic	33	2	1	-	26	-

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STATEMENT VI  
*Charitable Endowments*

			Reference Page No. 246
Name of Trust	Date of registration	Annual income (in Rs)	Objects
1	2	3	4
Rae Scholarship Endowment Trust	14.12.1923	197	To award scholarship
Bhaiya Jung Bahadur Singh Scholarship Endowment Trust	10.12.1906	24	-do-
M. Ram Narain Coronation Endowment Trust	6.5.1903	15	-do-
Ram Narain Khatri Victro Scholarship Fund	18.5.1921	62	-do-
Ramawati Devi Scholarship Trust Fund, Balrampur	4.2.1922	15	-do-
Mrs. Moni Mohan Bose Scholarship Endowment Trust	1.3.1923	15	-do-
Ram Lochan Lal Memorial Endowment Trust	20.1.1927	1	To award medals to students
Raj Devi Bhagwan Devi Charitable Endowment Trust	15.1.1924	3	-do-
Thomson Intermediate College Trust Fund	24.2.1927	2,061.43	To award scholarship
Raghu Nath Scholarship Endowment Trust Fund	31.10.1927	32.34.	-do-
Srimati Kamala Devi Benerjee Scholarship Endowment Trust	5.10.1944	102.40	-do-
Srimati Shakuntala Devi Nair Scholarship Endowment Trust	3.12.1947	233.09.	-do-

## STATEMENT VII

*Shia Waqf*

Reference Page No. 246

Name of Waqf	Date of foundation	Name of founder	Objective of Waqfs
Mohammad Ali Shah	18.8.1904	Mohammad Ali Shah	For azadari
Baqar Ali, Meerpur	9.2.1955	Baqar Ali	For azadari in Muharram
Imamia	Since time of nawab Asafud-daula Bahadur	Syed Mohd. Jafar	-do-
Ashrafunnisa Village Taker	1.5.1917	Ashrafunnisa Begam	For Azadari in Muharram and Scholarship of students
Saiyadi Begam, Utraula	28.12.1918	Saiyadi Begam	Waqf Allalaulad, Partly for religious, purposes.
Syed Muhammad Ali utrauls	Since old times	Syed Mohd. Ali	For azadari
Saiyed Hidayat Husain, Utraula	14.1.1936	Syed Hidayat Husain	For azadari
Syed Raza Husain, Utraula	7.5.1922	Syed Raza Husain	For azadari

## CHAPTER XVIII

### PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

#### REPRESENTATION OF DISTRICT IN STATE AND UNION LEGISLATURES

After Independence 11 persons represented the district in the first house of the State legislature. They were elected in 1952 from the 9 constituencies in which the district had been divided. Of these two persons had been returned from the reserved seats meant for the Scheduled Castes. In Lok Sabha only one duly elected person represented the district.

In the general elections of 1957 and 1962 the district was represented by 13 persons of which two were Scheduled Castes candidates. In the Lok Sabha, the district continued to be represented by one member as before.

In the general elections of 1967 and in the mid-term elections of 1969 the number of members for the State legislature was reduced to 12. It was further reduced to 11 in 1974; there being no change for the Lok Sabha and for the sixth general elections to the State legislature.

#### POLITICAL PARTIES

The hold of the different political parties on the people of the district as reflected by the results of the different general elections are given under heading 'Vidhan Sabha' and 'Lok Sabha'.

The political parties functioning in the district are units of all-India or State level organisations. The numerical strength of their party members varies from time to time. The important political parties which contested the general elections from the district prior to the formation of the Janta Party were the Indian National Congress, the Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh, the Bhartiya Jan Sangh, the Bhartiya Kranti Dal (now Bhartiya Lok Dal) the Swatantra Party, the Praja Socialist Party, the Hindu Mahasabha, the Socialist Party of India, the Mazdoor Parishad, the Samyukta Socialist Party, the Communist Party of India, the Rashtriya Loktantrik Sangh, and the Ram Rajya Parishad.

The results of various general elections reveal that the Indian National Congress was an active and strong party in the district. The party contested all the general elections to the Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha, and always won some seats. There was a split in the party in 1969 and the two parting groups came to be known as the Indian National Congress (Ruling) and the Indian

National Congress (Organisation). The latter also nurtured a sister organisation, commonly known as the Yuwak Congress, which had some influence among the youths.

The Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh may be merited to be the second strongest party in the district, (prior to its merger). This party also set candidates for all the general elections for the Vidhan Sabha as well as for the Lok Sabha seats, and always won some seats except in the parliamentary elections of 1962 and 1971. The party has a youth organisation known as Vidyarthi Parishad having some following in students community.

Among other parties which could get some success in the elections were the Hindu Mahasabha, the Swatantra Party, the Socialist Party of India and the Samyukta Socialist Party.

Soon after the announcement of the sixth general elections to the Vidhan Sabha in January 1976, the leaders of four opposition parties namely the Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh, the Indian National Congress (organisation), the Bhartiya Lok Dal and the Socialist Party of India decided to merge in a single party and thus gave birth to the Jana Party. Later on the Congress for Democracy another party, born after the announcement of the general elections, also joined the Janata Party on May 1, 1977. The same day the formal merger of all the five constituent parties was also declared at the National Convention of the Janata Party held in New Delhi from April 29 to May 1, 1977. At present it is the ruling party at the Centre as well as in the State.

#### VIDHAN SABHA (LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY)

For the general elections to the Vidhan Sabha in 1952, the district was divided into nine constituencies namely Utraula (North), Utraula (South), Utraula (Central), Utraula (North-East), Utraula (South-West), Gonda (East), Gonda (West), Tarabganj (South-East), cum-Gonda (South) and Tarabganj (West). There were 11 candidates to be returned, 8 for the general seats and two from constituencies reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates namely Utraula (North) and Tarabganj (South-East)-cum-Gonda (South).

The number of electors in the district was 8,17,300, the total votes polled were 4,29,666 of which 4,19,201 were found valid and 10,465 invalid the percentage of polling being to 53.0.

The following statement gives the number of contestants seats won, and votes secured by each party in the elections to Vidhan Sabha held in 1952 :

Party/Independents	No. of contestants	Seats won	Votes secured
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	7	1	75,757
Hindu Mahasabha	8	1	64,355
Indian National Congress	11	9	1,72,589
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	9	—	16,492
Ram Rajya Parishad	2	—	886
Revolutionary Socialist Party	1	—	5,399
Socialist Party of India	9	—	24,501
Independents	22	—	59,222
Total	69	11	4,19,201

For the general elections of 1957, to the Vidhan Sabha, the district was divided into 11 constituencies namely Tulsipur, Gonda (North), Gonda (South), Utraula, Sadullah Nagar, Manakpur, Mahadeva, Tarabganj, Paharapur, Sarju and Balrampur and was required to elect 13 members. Constituencies of Gonda (South) and Balrampur were allotted two seats each one of which was reserved for a member of the Scheduled Castes. Out of 10,94,452 electors in the district, only about 58 per cent cast their votes. The valid votes polled being 6,13,737 and invalid 16,493.

The following table gives the number of contestants, seats won and votes secured by each party in the Vidhan Sabha elections of 1957 :

Party/Independents	No. of contestants	Seats won	Votes secured
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	8	3	1,35,189
Indian National Congress	13	5	2,19,189
Praja Socialist Party	3	—	25,021
Independents	27	5	2,34,338
Total	51	13	6,13,737

For the general elections of 1962 to the Vidhan Sabha, the district was delimited into 13 single-member constituencies namely Tulsipur, Balrampur (South), Utraula, Sadullah Nagar, Manakpur, Gonda (East), Gonda (North), Paharapur, Sarju, Tarabganj, Mahadeva, Balrampur (North), and Gonda (West), the last two named being reserved for Scheduled Castes candidates. The number of electors was 11,50,920 and only 49 per cent votes were cast, the total valid and invalid votes polled were 5,37,276 and 28,891 respectively.

The following statement gives the number of contestants, seats won, and votes secured by each party in the Vidhan Sabha elections of 1962 :

Party/Independents	No. of contestants	Seats won	Votes secured
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	12	4	1,62,283
Hindu Mahasabha	5	—	6,759
Indian National Congress	13	6	1,94,864
Praja Socialist Party	2	—	4,669
Ram Rajya Parishad	1	—	1,834
Socialist Party of India	7	1	22,636
Swatantra Party	13	2	1,27,223
Independents	8	—	17,028
Total	61	13	5,37,276

At the general elections of 1967, to the Vidhan Sabha, the district had 12 constituencies namely Gainsari, Balrampur, Utraula, Sadullah Nagar, Manakpur, Mujehna, Gonda, Katra Bazar, Coloniganj, Tarabganj, Mahadeva and Tulsipur. The last two named were reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes. There

were 11,88,360 electors in the district. The total votes polled were 6,24,118 of which 5,80,081 were valid and 44,033 invalid. The percentage of votes cast being about 52.

The following table gives the number of contestants, seats won and votes secured by each party in the Vidhan Sabha elections of 1967 :

Party/Independents	No. of contestants	Seats won	Votes secured
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	8	5	1,66,019
Communist Party of India	1	—	1,943
Indian National Congress	12	5	2,27,667
Praja Socialist Party	3	—	10,574
Republican Party of India	1	—	8,558
Samyukta Socialist Party	8	—	43,918
Swatantra Party	7	1	57,262
Independents	18	1	64,140
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5,80,081</b>

The Congress ministry formed after the general elections resigned on April 1, 1967 owing to a large number of defections from within the party. The new government formed by the leader of the defect members with help of the other parties could not last long. The Vidhan Sabha constituted after 1967 general elections, was therefore dissolved on February 25, 1968, and the State began to be administered by the President. A mid-term poll was held in February, 1969. There was no change either in the number or nature of constituencies. There were 12,49,196 electors out of which nearly 47 per cent cast their votes. The number of valid and invalid votes polled were 5,67,353 and 24,787 respectively. The results were as follows :

Party/Independents	No. of contestants	Seats won	Votes secured
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	12	4	1,93,290
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	11	—	40,972
Communist Party of India	1	—	2,377
Hindu Mahasabha	1	—	1,962
Indian National Congress	12	6	2,28,611
Mazdoor Parishad	3	—	4,137
Republican Party of India (Ambedkrite)	1	—	8,988
Samyukta Socialist Party	6	1	34,478
Socialist Party of India	1	—	3,828
Swatantra Party	4	1	25,197
Independents	8	—	23,513
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5,67,353</b>

On October 2, 1970, the Presidents' Rule was again imposed as the then chief minister of the Bhartiya Kranti Dal-Congress coalition refused to resign when the Congress withdrew its support.



The President's rule was revoked on October 18, and the Samyukta Vidhayak Dal ministry was sworn in. This government did not last long and following its collapse the Congress government came to power in April, 1971. Two years later, the chief minister, though commanding a comfortable majority in the Assembly, submitted the resignation of this council of ministers to the Governor on June, 1973, clearing the way for President's rule again for the third time since Independence in the State which ended in November, 1973, with congress government taking office.

The Congress government returned to power after the next general elections of 1974, for which the district was divided into 11 constituencies. This time constituencies of Mankapur and Digsir were reserved for Scheduled Caste candidates, the other constituencies being Gainsari, Tulsiapur, Balrampur, Utraula, Sadullah Nagar, Mujehna, Gonda, Katra Bazar and Colonelganj. There were 13,28,124 electors in the district, of which only 49 per cent cast their votes, the valid votes polled being 6,22,775 and invalid 26,545.

The following table gives the number of contestant seats won and votes secured by each party for the Vidhan Sabha elections held in 1974 :

Party/Independents	No. of contestants	Seats won	Votes secured
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	11	6	2,25,034
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	11	—	60,667
Hindu Mahasabha	2	—	948
Indian National Congress (Organisational)	11	—	42,936
Indian National Congress (Ruling)	11	5	2,17,462
Rashtriya Loktantrik Sangh	5	—	7,927
Revolutionary Socialist Party of India (Marxist Leninist)	1	—	3,304
Socialist Party of India	6	—	18,330
Swatantra Party	7	—	20,945
Independents	22	—	25,522
Total	87	11	6,22,775

In May, 1977, the Legislative Assembly was dissolved and mid-term polls were held after a month there being no change in the number of the constituencies. Out of 11 constituencies two were reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes.

This election was contested mainly between two parties i.e., the Indian National Congress and the Janata Party. The latter was formed as a result of merger of the Bhartiya Lok Dal, the Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh, the Indian National Congress (Organisation), the Socialist party and the Congress for Democracy, adopting the symbol of the Bhartiya Lok Dal. The total electorates numbered about 13.6 lacs and of these about 4.7 lacs or about 34.0 per cent exercised their right to vote. There were 75 contestants of whom 11 each belonged to the Janata Party and the Indian National Con-

gress and the remaining 53 were Independents. Out of 11 seats 9 were won by the Janata Party and two went to the Indian National Congress.

### UNION LEGISLATURE

At the general elections of 1957 to Lok Sabha, the district had two constituencies namely Balrampur and Gonda. There were in all 8,59,861 electors in the district, of which nearly 48 per cent exercised their right of franchise. The number of valid votes polled was 4,09,038 and invalid 69.

The following statement shows the number of contestants, seats won and votes secured by each party at the general elections of Lok Sabha held in 1957 :

Party/Independents	No. of contestants	Seats won	Votes secured
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	1	1,18,380
Indian National Congress	2	1	1,01,142
Independents	2	—	99,516
Total	5	2	4,09,038

For the general elections of 1962 to the Lok Sabha, there was no change in the constituencies. The number of electors in the district had undoubtedly increased and the figure stood at 9,04,009. In all 4,50,550 electors cast their votes of which 4,32,502 were found valid and 18,048 invalid. The percentage of polling was about 50 per cent.

The following table gives the relevant data regarding Lok Sabha elections held in 1962 :

Party/Independents	No. of contestants	Seats won	Votes secured
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	—	1,00,208
Hindu Mahasabha	2	—	32,475
Indian National Congress	2	2	1,83,197
Socialist Party of India	1	—	7,674
Swatantra Party	2	—	1,05,014
Independents	1	—	3,934
Total	9	2	4,32,502

At the fourth general elections to the Lok Sabha held in 1967, there were the same two single-member constituencies in the district namely Gonda and Balrampur. The total number of electorates was 9,97,611 and the votes polled were 5,13,685, valid and 25,870 invalid. The percentage of polling was 54 per cent.

The following statement shows the results of the general elections of 1967 :

Party/Independents	No. of contestants	Seats won	Votes secured
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	1	1,42,446
Indian National Congress	2	1	2,15,608
Swatantra Party	2	—	1,22,254
Independents	1	—	33,377
Total	6	2	5,13,685

For the general elections of 1971 to the Lok Sabha, the district again had the same two constituencies namely Balrampur and Gonda and there were 10,60,798 electors. Total votes polled were 44 per cent or 4,65,236 of which 4,48,411 were found valid, 16,825 invalid.

The following table gives an idea of representation of the political parties in the fifth general elections to the Lok Sabha held in 1971 :

Party/Independents	No. of contestants	Seats won	Votes secured
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	—	1,13,115
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	1	—	2,129
Indian National Congress (J)	2	1	2,18,369
Indian National Congress (N)	1	1	1,00,180
Independents	2	—	14,618
Total	7	2	4,48,411

In the sixth general elections of 1977 to the Lok Sabha the district had two single member constituencies Gonda and Balrampur. The total number of votes was about 12.4 lac and the number of valid votes polled was about 6.0 lacs.

The following table shows the number of contestants, seats won and the number of votes polled for each political party in the Lok Sabha elections of 1977 :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Votes secured (in lac)
Indian National Congress	2	—	1.90
Janata Party	2	2	3.75
Independents	3	—	0.37
Total	7	2	6.02

## NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

The following table gives about some of the important periodicals published in the district in 1978 :

Name of Periodical	Year of commencement	Periodicity	Language	Copies in circulation
<i>Jan Tantra</i>	1969	Weekly	Hindi	1,800
<i>Jyoti Prakhur</i>	1973	"	"	1,800
<i>Kranti Manch</i>	1977	"	"	1,000
<i>Prerna</i>	1974	"	"	1,500
<i>Satya Bharat</i>	1974	"	"	700
<i>Vichar Bharti</i>	1959	"	"	1,800
<i>Bhawana</i>	1973	Monthly	"	500

Certain dailies, weeklies, fortnightly and monthlies, which are published outside the district and have a circulation in the district, are listed below :

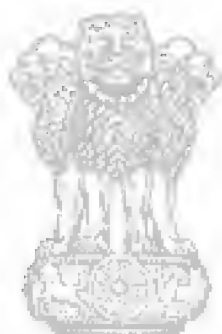
Daily	Weekly	Fortnightly	Monthly
<b>Hindi</b>			
<i>Aaj</i>	<i>Dharmyug</i>	<i>Champak</i>	<i>Chandamama</i>
<i>Amrit Prabhat</i>	<i>Maya Puri</i>	<i>Madhuri</i>	<i>Grah Shobha</i>
<i>Hindustan</i>	<i>Ravivar</i>	<i>Manorama</i>	<i>Kadambini</i>
<i>Nav Bharat Times</i>	<i>Saptahik</i>	<i>Mukta</i>	<i>Lot-pot</i>
	<i>Hindustan</i>		
<i>Nav Jeevan</i>		<i>Sarita</i>	<i>Manohar</i>
			<i>Kahaniyan</i>
<i>Swatantra Bharat</i>			<i>Maya</i>
			<i>Nav Neet</i>
			<i>Niharika</i>
			<i>Parag</i>
			<i>Satya Katha</i>
<b>English</b>			
<i>Indian Express</i>	<i>Blitz</i>	<i>Caravan</i>	<i>Cine Blitz</i>
<i>National Herald</i>	<i>Screen</i>	<i>Champak</i>	<i>Imprint</i>
<i>Northern India</i>	<i>Sports</i>	<i>Femina</i>	<i>Mirror</i>
<i>Patrika</i>	<i>Sunday</i>		
<i>The Hindustan Times</i>	<i>Week End</i>	<i>Filmfare</i>	<i>Picture Post</i>
<i>The Pioneer</i>		<i>India Today</i>	<i>Reader's Digest</i>
<i>The Statesman</i>		<i>Star and Style</i>	<i>Star Dust</i>
<i>The Times of India</i>		<i>Women's Era</i>	
<b>Urdu</b>			
<i>Milan</i>	<i>Aajkal</i>	<i>Yaad</i>	<i>Biswin Sadi</i>
<i>Pratap</i>	<i>Tej</i>		<i>Shama</i>
<i>Qaumi Awaz</i>			

## VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

There are a few voluntary social service organisation in the district for looking after certain social and economic aspects of the community in general and the special needs of the socially neglected castes in particular. In the past these institutions mostly depended on philanthropy and the missionary zeal, but with the posting of district Harijan Welfare officer to the district in 1957, and also the amalgamation of the Harijan Sahayak and social welfare departments in 1961, efforts were started to strengthen these organisation and to coordinates their activities and those of the governmental institutions in the field.

**Mac Donnel Orphanage**—The only orphanage of the district, was started in the nineteenth century and has been serving as a registered body since July, 1952. Its main office is situated at Pansia Talab, Balrampur, Gonda and is managed by a committee. The orphanage has its own building and provides education and vocational training to the inmates free of charge. It receives grant-in-aid from the State Government.

**Jan Shiksha Sanstha**—This organisation at Gonda was founded in 1946, spreading its field of activities to the whole of the State. It serves the district through its nine branches. The aims of the institution are extension of education and rural industries, publication of literature having public utility and social education. The institution is managed by a committee of five members. It is also running a leprosy centre. The sources of income are donations, contributions and membership fee.



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## CHAPTER XIX

### PLACES OF INTEREST\*

#### **Balrampur (pargana and tahsil Balrampur)**

Capital of the pargana and the tahsil of the same name Balrampur lies in Lat.  $27^{\circ}26'$  N. and Long.  $82^{\circ}11'$  E. It is a municipal town situated at a distance of 42 km. from the district headquarters on the north bank of river Suwawan and about 3 km. south of Rapti and has a population of 36,191 and area of 8.52 sq. km. It is connected with Gonda by a metalled road and also by the railway, which passed to the west of the town, the station being about 3 km. distant. The site is a little raised to the north and slopes into the swamps along the river Suwawan. During very heavy rains, owing to the overflow of Suwawan river and the Rapti the place at times gets surrounded by water.

The town is well built and chiefly owes its prosperity to Maharaja Sir Drigbijai Singh of Balrampur as it was the headquarters of his estate.

Balrampur has been administered as a municipality since June, 1871. The board then consisted of 12 members of whom were elected and 3 appointed by Government, the Maharaja being the Chairman. The income was chiefly derived from a tax on professions and trades and the municipal cattle-pound and slaughter-house. There was a bench of 3 honorary magistrates. The Maharaja himself exercised second class power over a large area.

The place is clean and well drained and can boast a number of beautiful edifices erected by the earhwhile rulers of the estate, the more noteworthy of them being the palace of Maharaja. The palace an imposing pile of buildings encloses a large court. Adjoining the palace is a beautiful building of three storeys in the Italian style by one Moti Gir, Goshain, a wealthy merchant. Another building is the mausoleum containing a statue of Maharaja Sir Drigbijai Singh. It is beautifully carved by the artists of Varanasi. At a distance of 1.6 km. is the village of Bijlipur. There is a famous temple dedicated to Bijleshwari Devi.

The town owes its prosperity chiefly to the influence of the family of the Maharaja with which its name is associated.

In former days Balrampur was an important centre of trade with Nepal, which was ultimately stopped by the policy of Nepalese authorities, who endeavoured to confine all trades to their own territory. Markets are held here on Mondays and Fridays and a

considerable trade is carried on, chiefly in rice and other grains from the surrounding country.

The place is well electrified and is the development block headquarters of the same name. Among the amenities of public utility include a police-station, a post office, a dak-bungalow, dispensary, a health centre, 2 cinema halls, senior Basic school 2 Basic schools, and the Mac Donnell orphanage school.

The place has a large and flourishing sugar mill and a considerable timber and wood industry. A considerable fair at Bijlipur, a village nearly 3 km. east of the town takes place on the full moon of Asadha at the temple of Bijleshwari Devi and is attended by about 10,000 persons.

### **Chhapia (pargana Babhnipur, tahsil Utraula)**

Chhapia lies in Lat.  $26^{\circ}58'$  N. and Long.  $82^{\circ}24'$  E., and is situated at a distance of about 50 km. from the district headquarters and 58 km. from the tahsil headquarters. It lies about 4.5 km. south-east of Maskinwan station, where the road from Nawabganj to Chanderdighat crosses the railway line. It is also a railway station, at a short distance north of the village on the North-Eastern Railway.

The chief interest of the place is the shrine of Swami Narain and the religious brotherhood attached to it. The saint was the son of ane Pande, who had married the daughter of a co-sharer in this village, and was born about 1780. At a very early age the boy then known as Sahajanand, migrated to Gujarat, where he was adopted by Ramanand, the head of the great Vaishnava monastery at Junagarh. He became a noted Sanskrit scholar and gained a wide reputation for learning and piety. After his death at the age of about 49, he was accorded divine honours by his devotees as an incarnation of Krishna under the name of Swami Narain.

His immense wealth passed to his two uncles, who went from Chhapia to Gujarat, and their descendants ruled the two branches of the sect. About 1845 his disciples in Gujarat determined to erect a temple at the birth place of the saint and a number of them came to Chhapia for the purpose. After annexation the place was purchased for the enormous sum of Rs 500 per acre and the buildings adjoining the temple were completed. The place consists of houses for the members of the order and for the convenience of travellers and others. Behind the temple is a well built brick bazar and in front a large masonry tank. The temple itself which is built of stone and marble from Mirzapur and Jaipur, is approached through a handsome gateway by a broad flight of steps leading to a domed porch, beyond which is a colonnade surmounted by a stone gallery which runs all round the building and support three domes in a row, that in the centre being the largest and directly behind the porch. Under the right hand dome is a shrine of Hanuman, and opposite it a chapel with figures of Siva, Parvati and

Ganesh. in the centre is a collection of relics, including a portrait of the Swami, his turban, pillow, and bed, the last covered with bands of solid gold. Behind the domes rise three spires of the ordinary description, and underneath them are three chapels, with Rama, Laxaman, and Sita in the centre, Krishna, Radhika and Balrama to the left, and Swami Narain himself to the right. The building, inside and out is covered with painting comprising scenes from the life of the saint, pictures of deities and harrowing representations of the internal regions.

A large number of pilgrims visit this place at all times of the year, but especially in the month of Kartika and on Rama Navami.

The place is electrified and is the headquarters of the development block of the same name. It has a population of 619 and an area of 112 hectares. Among the amenities of public utility are included two junior basic schools, a post-office, a senior basic school, a police-station, a dispensary and a dharmshala.

A market is held here on Sundays where food-grains, vegetables and different articles of daily use are traded.

On the occasion of Rama Navami a fair is held here which is attended by about 25,000 persons, especially from Gujarat.

#### **Colonelganj (pargana Guwarich, tahsil Tarabganj)**

Colonelganj is a town which lies in Lat. 27°8' N. and Long. 81°42' E. It is a municipal town situated at a distance of about 28 km. from the tahsil headquarters and 16 km. from the district headquarters. It is connected with metalled roads in the south-east with Tarabganj and Nawabganj; in the north-east with Katra and Balrampur and north-west with the district of Bahraich. It is also a railway station on the North-eastern Railway between Jarwal and Gonda. It has a population of 11,743 and area of 1.79 sq. km.

The old name of the place was Sakraura. It was a village of no peculiar importance till 1780, when a force, was sent under the command of Major Byug by the Nawab vizier to bring to terms the refractory chieftains of the trans-Ghaghra districts and to uphold the authority of the nazims. The place (Sakraura or Colonelganj), was selected as an encamping ground and a small force remained there for 8 years. In 1802 another force under the command of Colonel Fooks was stationed in the old encampment, and a bazar sprang up under the name of Colonelganj, in honour of the commanding officer. The cantonments were maintained here till annexation, where the place was selected as the military headquarters of the commissioner of Gonda and Bahraich. During the freedom struggle of 1857 the Indian forces at Colonelganj joined the freedom struggle and the English officers escaped to Balrampur with difficulty.



After the re-occupation of Avadh the station was abandoned and the remaining trace of the English occupation is the graveyard, which contains a few tombstones.

The amenities available include two junior basic schools, a senior basic school, a higher secondary school, an intermediate college, a maternity and child welfare centre, a dispensary, a post and telegraph-office, a police-station, an inspection house, and a branch each of the State Bank of India, the district Co-operative Bank and the Allahabad Bank. The town is electrified and is the headquarters of development block of the same name.

The town is also an important railway station, because of its big wholesale market (*mandi*), where maize, jute, *urd* and *patuwa* (fibre used for making ropes) are traded. These commodities are exported to Gorakhpur, Basti, Deoria and Kanpur.

### Gonda (tahsil Gonda)

Gonda, the district headquarters, is one of the important centres for trade and commerce in the district. It lies in Lat. 27°8'N. and Long. 81°58' E. It is a municipal town situated at a distance of about 44 km. north-west of Faizabad and within 80 km. of the lower ranges of hills, which are visible throughout the rains and in clear weather at other seasons of the year.

Tradition relates that the site on which Gonda stands was originally a jungle, and that during the rule of the Kalhans rajas of Khurasa there was a cattle station in which Ahirs of the raja kept their herds, that from this fact the place was called Gontha, afterwards corrupted into Gonda, a name which occurs with a similar meaning in many parts of the state.

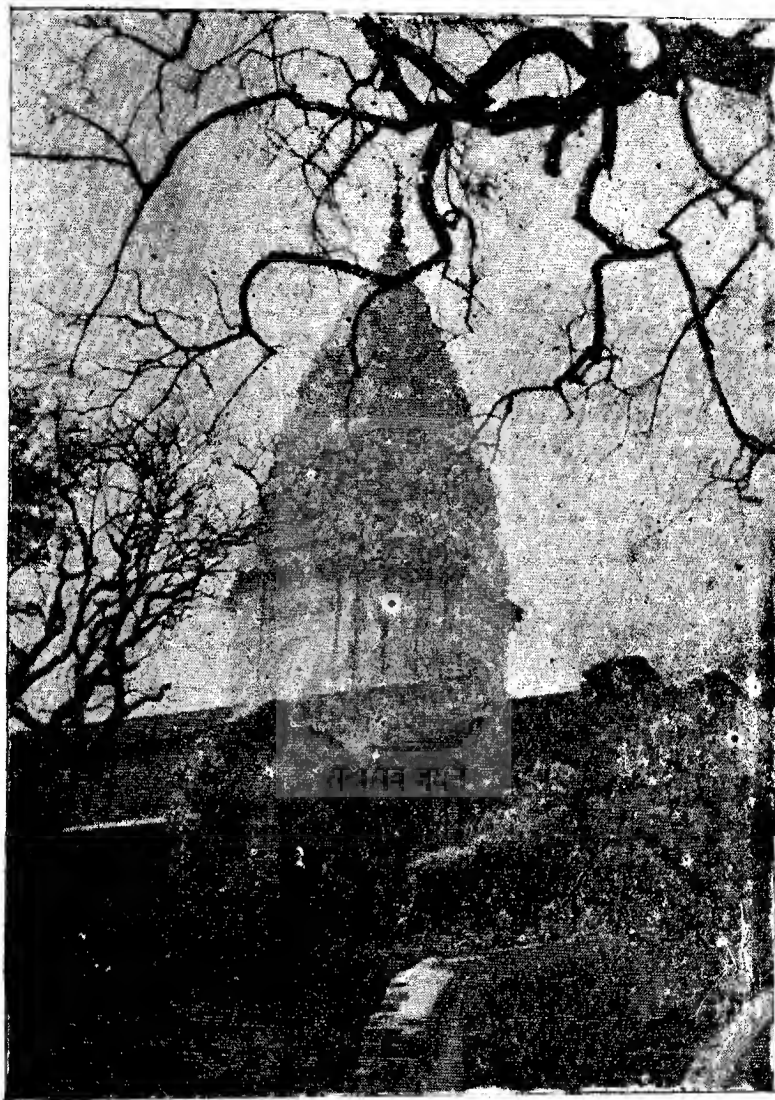
The town was founded by raja Man Singh, who built a palace here and erected fortifications in the shape of a deep moat and the rampart made by the earth so excavated. Traces of this moat are visible and the ditch became gradually widened by newcomers taking mud from its edge to build their houses until at last the widened fosse (ditch) developed into a series of ponds, which result in insanitary conditions.

During the reign of raja Dutta Singh many Rajputs settled at Gonda, and by them Katehria and Baistola muhalla were peopled. Raja Dutt Singh built a large palace, which stands in a decayed state in the north-east of the town near the Utraula road, a part of which has been renovated and stands rented. His grandson Raja Sheo Prasad Singh, who was a religious man, excavated the large tank known as Sagar by the side of the road leading to Colonelganj and built on the island in the middle of the lake, a temple by the side of which stands the cenotaphs of some members of his family, presently all in a state of neglect for want of repair and superintendence.

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Sagar Talab, Gonda



**Temple of Prithvinath, Khargupur, Tahsil Gonda**

There are several other temples at Gonda, the more noteworthy being that of Dukh Haran Nath in Radha Kund and at Hanuman Garhi in a large masonry tank having a temple at its bank and a wrestling ring.

The town was constituted a municipality in January, 1869.

Gonda is an important marketing centre from where food-grains and timber are exported. While *Kirana* and cloth have brisk trade.

The place is electrified and is the headquarters of a development block. Among the amenities of public utility include 2 hospitals, one T. B. Clinic, a family planning centre, a police-station, a degree college, 4 intermediate colleges including one for girls, 2 cinema houses, and a branch of each of the Central Bank of India the State Bank of India, the Punjab National Bank and the Hindustan Commercial Bank. It has a population of 52,662 and area of 10.57 sq. km.

#### **Katra (Birpur Katra, pargana Paharapur, tahsil Gonda)**

Katra, a town area lying in Lat.  $27^{\circ}13' N.$  and Long.  $81^{\circ}48' E.$ , on the road running from Colonelganj to Maharajganj and Balrampur. It is situated at a distance of about 9.6 km. north-east of the Colonelganj and 40 km. from the tahsil headquarters.

The place is electrified and is the development block headquarters of the same name. It has a population of 2,571 and area of 40 hectares.

It possesses 3 junior Basic schools, a senior Basic school, a hospital and a post-office.

#### **Khargupur Bazar (pargana and tahsil Gonda)**

Khargupur Imilia lie in Lat.  $27^{\circ}23' N.$  and Long.  $81^{\circ}59' E.$ , at a distance of about 30 km. from the district headquarters and the tahsil headquarters. It lies on the east side of the road leading from Kauria station to Mathura in Balrampur, which is joined by a metalled branch road from Itiathoke. Khargupur Imilia has become famous for its temple which was constructed by Maharaja Man Singh of Ayodhya, subsequently to the discovery of a large *lingam*, with a well-carved *argha*, a relic of the remot past. The temple is a very handsome edifice and is visited by considerable number of pilgrims. Both to the west and south of village are many mounds, which doubtless represent the site of a buried town, but these have not yet been explored. It has been administered under Act XX of 1856 since 1877 and is now a town area.

Radha Kund, Gonda



The place is electrified and possesses a post-office, a junior Basic school and a primary health centre.

A weekly market is held here on wednesday and considerable business is done in food-grains. It has a population of 4,252 and area of 284 hectares.

### **Mankapur (pargana and tahsil Utraula)**

Mankapur lies in Lat. 27°3' N. and Long. 82°14' E., and is situated at a distance of about 30 km. from the district headquarters and about 40 km. from the tahsil headquarters. It is a station on the North-Eastern Railway and a branch line takes off from this place and runs south to Lakarmandi ghat. From the railway station a metalled branch road runs west for a little more than 1.6 km. to join the road from Nawabganj to Utraula. To the north of the village runs the branch road from Bhitaura to Machhligaon and Sadullah Nagar. Between the village and railway station is a market, known as Raniganj.

Tradition relates that the village was founded by a Bhar named Makks, who displaced the Tharus from this part of the country, and that the site was formerly covered with dense jungle.

The place has a flourishing grain market particularly for wheat, rice, maize and other agricultural produce distributing centre for goods manufactured. This market takes place on every Saturday.

The place is electrified and is the development block headquarters of the same name. It has a population of 4,250 and area of 351 hectares.

The amenities of public utility available include an inspection house, a junior Basic school, a senior Basic school, a higher secondary school, 2 post-offices, a police-station and a maternity and child welfare centre.

### **Mathura (pargana and tahsil Balrampur)**

Mathura is a large and scattered village in the extreme west of the tahsil Balrampur. It lies in Lat. 27°35' N. and Long. 82°4' E., at a distance of about 24 km. from tahsil headquarters and about 47 km. from the district headquarters.

The village is electrified and chief market of the neighbouring place where considerable trade is carried on. It has a population of 4,851 and area of 512 hectares.

About one and half km. to the north is a handsome *dargah* of one Mir Hanifa, erected by the Nawab Wazir Asaf-Ud-daula, where a considerable assemblage takes place on Id-ul-fitre.

The place has a junior Basic school, a hospital, a family planning centre, a post-office, a police-station, and a dharmshala.

#### **Nawabganj (pargana Nawabganj, tahsil Tarabganj)**

Nawabganj lies in Lat.  $26^{\circ}52'N$ . and Long.  $82^{\circ}09'E$ ., on the side of the main road from Faizabad to Gonda, at a distance of 40 km. from the district headquarters and 18 km. from the tahsil headquarters. Roads from this place run to Tarabganj and Colonelganj on the north-west, to Mankapur and Utraula on the north, and to Lakarmandi on the south-east. Parallel to the Lakarmandi road runs a branch line of railway to Mankapur, with railway station Nawabganj to the north-east of the town. Nawabganj derives its name from Nawab Shuja-ud-daula, who found it necessary to establish a market on north of the Ghaghra river to meet the requirements of his troops and attendants in his frequent hunting expeditions from Faizabad to Wazirganj. For enough from the river to be safe from the floods, on the boundary of the villages of Agampur and Tathia. In course of time a large grain market grew up here. It has a population of 7,284 and area of 3.11 sq. km.

Nawabganj is administered as a municipal town.

The place is electrified and is the development block headquarters of the same name. It possesses a police-station, a post-office, a dispensary, a sarai, an inspection house, a junior Basic school and a family planning centre.

#### **Paraspur (including Ata) (pargana Guwarich, tahsil Tarabganj)**

Paraspur, a large village, lying on both sides of the road from Colonelganj to Nawabganj at a distance of 15 km. from the tahsil headquarters and 24 km. from the district headquarters in Lat.  $27^{\circ}2'N$ . and Long.  $81^{\circ}47'E$ . The main road is crossed by a branch road running from Balpur to Kamiar.

The place derives its name from raja Paras Ram, who descended from the Kalhans chieftain Achal Singh and remained for some time, the headquarters of one of the Kalhans taluqas.

Adjoining Paraspur on the north-west and practically forming with it a single site is Ata. It was also the headquarters of a taluqa belonging to the same clan. There is a curious local legend explaining the derivation of its name. It is said that Babu Lal Sah, the founder of the Ata branch of the family, was on one occasion hunting near Paraspur and met a faqir eating what appeared to be carrion. The holy man pressed him to join in the repast and his repugnance yielded to hunger and a dread of the curse which was promised if he refused. To his surprise it turned out to be excellent ata or wheat flour, and at the faqir's bidding a pot full of the delectable flesh was buried under the gateway of the fort which Lal Sah was building.

Paraspur is electrified and is the headquarters of a development block of the same name. It has a population of 1,007 and area about 827 hectares.

The amenities of public utility include a hospital, two junior Basic schools, a senior Basic school, a post-office, a higher secondary school, a family planning centre, a maternity and child welfare centre, and a police-station.

There is a flourishing daily market at Paraspur.

### Sravasti (Sahet Mahet)

Sahet Mahet is the modern equivalent of the site of Sravasti of ancient fame. It was the capital of Uttar-Kosala, about 16 km. from Balrampur, 83 km. north of Ayodhya and 1,152 km. from Rajgir (in Bihar). The town was founded by Sravasti, a king of Solar race. It is a series of mounds in Lat. 27°31' N. and Long. 82°3' E., cover an extensive area and lie on both sides of the district boundary, partly in the Gonda villages of Gangapur and Ghughalpur and partly in Chakar-Bhandar and Rajgarh Grulariha of Bahraich district the major portion of the site falling in the latter district.

The place was first explored by General Cunningham, who made slight excavations, the results of which were afterwards published. Mr. Bennett subsequently visited the spot, but his researches were confined to a few days only, and little was effected. In December 1884 Dr. W. Hoey was deputed to examine the place and his report was published in 1892. Dr. Hoey unhesitatingly identified Sahet Mahet with the ancient capital of Sravasti, but his view have been disputed.

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Though the slight controversy regarding identification of the site with Sravasti remains to be resolved, yet in any case Sahet Mahet represents the site of a large fortified city, full of Buddhist and Jain remains, and of great antiquity. For its size alone it must have been a place of note for a considerable period, and as it contained Buddhist monasteries at least till the twelfth century, it is probable that it was one of the places visited by the Chinese pilgrims, if not Sravasti itself. The remains consist of Mahet, a large crescent-shaped fortress, with the concave side facing the river; Sahet, a smaller mound to the south-west, three small mounds to the west, north of the latter; seven similar heaps east of Sahet and opposite the southern face of Mahet; and a detached mound locally known as the Orajhar on the south side of road to Balrampur. This name, Orajhar, occurs also at Ayodhya, where it is said to mean "Basket Shakings" or "the place where the labourers cleaned their baskets when returning home each evening."

Both General Cunningham and Dr. Hoey in their excavations attempted to identify each locality with the sites or buildings mentioned by the Chinese pilgrims with regard to Sravasti in 1863



General Cunningham took measurements of Mahet, which he considered to have been surrounded with a massive brick wall with a ditch on the land side. The circuit he gave as 17,300 feet. The whole site was covered with dense jungle; in this he cut pathways to all the ruined eminences, and then began excavations to ascertain their nature. His discoveries included several small stupas and temples in Sahet, in district Bahraich, one of which contained a colossal standing Buddha with a fragmentary inscription bearing the name Sravasti, and supposed by him to have come from Mathura, the traces of some buildings on the Orajhar, but very little of any importance elsewhere. He again visited the place in 1876, with the object of proving his identification of Sahet with the famous Jetavana monastery of Sravasti. He made excavations in twenty places, and discovered ten temples and five stupas, the others being mere mounds of rubbish. He also found a number of clay scale and votive offerings, and a few fragments of sculpture, but no inscriptions.

Dr. Hoey's endeavours were for more comprehensive and his finds of greater interest. He showed that the great citadel of Mahet had four gates and was divided into separate quarters; he found remains of Buddhist, Jain and Brahmanical temples, and a large quantity of statuary and other articles. The only inscriptions were, however, of comparatively late date and nothing was elucidated with regard to the history of the place.

The prosperity of Sravasti was the prosperity of the kingdom of Kosala. The kingdom figured prominently among the four powerful monarchies of northern India and Sravasti reached its zenith in Buddha's time.

#### **Tarabganj (pargana Digsir, tahsil Tarabganj)**

Tarabganj, the tahsil headquarters of the same name lies in Lat. 26°58' N. and Long. 81°59' E., on the road from Colonelganj to Nawabganj at a short distance east of its junction with that running from Gonda to Begamganj. It is about 59 km. from the district headquarters.

The place is electrified and is the development block headquarters of the same name. The tahsil has been located at Tarabganj, since its removal from Begamganj in 1876, owing to inundations of the Ghaghra. The present site was chosen by reason of its central position on the high sandy soil, above the river Tehri. It has a population of 19 027 and area of 4.9 sq.km.

It possesses a post-office, a police-station, a degree college, a hospital, 3 junior Basic schools and 2 senior Basic schools.

#### **Tulsipur (pargana and tahsil Gonda)**

Tulsipur lies in Lat. 27°32' N. and Long. 82°25' E., at a distance of about 22 km. to the south-west of Utraula, about 26 km.

south of Balrampur and about 69 km. from the district headquarters. It is connected with all of these places by roads, while others lead east to Pachperwa and north-west to Hanauja and Chaudhridih. The communications were much improved with the construction of the Gonda-Gorakhpur line via Balrampur and Tulsipur. The railway station lies to the south-west of the town near Debi Patan.

About 1.6 km. to south, at the junction of the Utraula and Balrampur roads are the remains of the large mud fort of the rajas of Tulsipur.

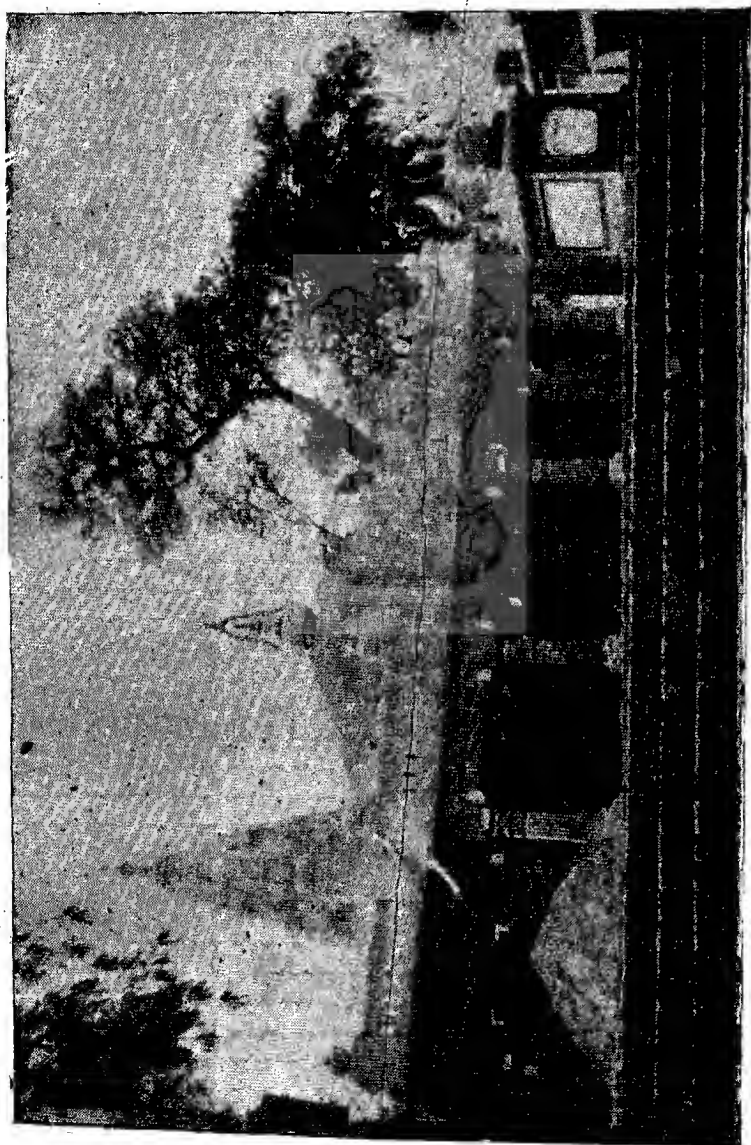
The town is said to have been founded about 300 years ago by a Kurmi named Tulsī Das; but not long afterwards came into the possession of the hill rajas of Dang who were afterwards better known as the rajas of Tulsipur. It has a population of 9,599 and area of 51 hectares. It is a growing place with a thriving grain trade. Rice forms the chief article of export, but there is a considerable retail trade in metal utensils cotton fabrics, and other articles.

The amenities of public utility available include a police-station, a post-office, a hospital, two junior Basic schools, an inspection house and 4 dharmshalas.

The place is administered as a town area and is well electrified. It is also the headquarters of the development block of the same name. A sugar-factory and a number of small scale and household industries have also been established.

At a short distance west of Tulsipur is a place Devi Patan on the road to Chaudhridih. It is a place of great antiquity and is traditionally connected with raja Karna of the *Mahabharata*, and is one of the oldest seat of the Shakta cults in Northern India. Other legends ascribe the reconstruction of the shrine to Vikramaditya, who has been identified with Chandragupta II, and who restored the decayed temples of Ayodhya. A third building was erected by Ratan Nath, the third in spiritual descent from Gorakh Nath, the deified saint who is said to have lived in the second half of the fourteenth century and is celebrated as the founder of the sect of jogis. This old temple built of red sandstone, flourished for many years as a resort of throngs of pilgrims from Gorakhpur, Nepal and elsewhere, till the days of Aurangzeb, one of whose officers slew the priests, broke the images, and defiled the holy places. This deed was avenged by two Rajputs who murdered the offending person of whom tradition relates that he was buried under the Subir mound so called from the pigs sacrificed there in derision of his memory, though probably the name is connected with Siva. A fourth temple, the present one of Parvati, the wife of Siva was erected, apparently by the Chauhan rajas of Tulsipur and the material of the former edifice were largely employed in its construction including an inscribed stone over the gateway, bearing a nagri inscription in which the name of Gorakh Nath appears.

The temple stands on a large heap of bricks and close by are a tank and well dating from early times and old legend ascribes the



Devi Patan Temple, Tulshipur, Tahsil Balrampur

ancient ruins and the tank to Karna. Above these are numerous fragments of broken images and sculpture, the relics of the former temples.

The fair of Devi Patan is held from the first to the ninth of bright half of Chaitra and attracts about a lac of pilgrims and traders, formerly the religious observance consisted of frequent sacrifices of buffaloes, goats and pigs, the priest receiving a small fee for each animal killed. The practice is fast dying out though a brisk trade is still carried on.

The place is also connected with the Puranic legend of indifference and insult meted out to Sati at the hands of Daksha, her father. Siva arrived to find her dead and taking the self-immolated corpse on his shoulder, carried it eastwards. The dead and live bodies were not to be separated till Vishnu cut the former into fifty pieces with his chakra, and flinging them in as many directions created new places of pilgrimage. Her left arm with her pat (scarf) fell at Devi Patan and sank through the earth into the lower world. Hence the name Devi Patan.

#### Utraula (pargana and tahsil Utraula)

Utraula, the tahsil headquarters, lies in Lat.  $27^{\circ}19' N.$  and Long  $82^{\circ}25' E.$ , at a distance of about 27 km. south-east of Balrampur and about 52 km. north-east of the district headquarters. It is administered as a notified area. Through the town runs a road from Balrampur to Biskonar (district Bas'i). This is joined on the west of the town by a metalled road from Gonda and on the south by a similar road from Mankapur and Nawabganj. Other roads lead north to Tulsipur and north-east to Pachperwa.

The name Utraula is variously derived from *uttar*, signifying the northern town; and from *Uttara Kunwar*, a Rajput chief who is said to have been ruling here in the days of Humayun. It then was a stronghold of Rajputs, which was captured in 1582 by Ali Khan, the founder of the house of Pathan rajas with whose history Utraula is intimately connected. The rajas of Utraula held the place undisturbed till 1830, when raja Drigbijai Singh of Balrampur attacked the town, burnt it, and carried away the *quran* of the raja as a trophy.

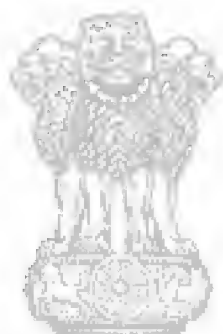
The town consists of general muhallas lying on either side of the Balrampur road, the larger portion being to the north. It is said that in the days of Uttara Kunwar there were, in addition to the large brick fort, several outlying forts, at a distance of about 1.6 km. from the town. Raja Ali Khan dug the great oblong tank to the west of the town on the site of his victory over the Rajputs. By the side of this stands his tomb and those of some of his descendants. Close to these on the east is a large stone tank, and a temple dedicated to Dukh Haran Nath Mahadeo. This was built over a century ago by a Goshain of Balrampur and stands in a picturesque garden close to which are two other Goshain monasteries.

The town is electrified, is the development block headquarters of the same name and is administered as a town area.

A market is held here on every Saturday.

The amenities of public utility available include a post-office, a police-station, a dispensary, an inspection house, a large brick serai on the extremity of the town, 2 junior Basic schools, 2 senior Basic schools.

Fairs are held here on the occasion of Dasahra, Sivratri and Muharram which attract about 10,000 visitors on each occasion. It has a population of 12,634 and area of 2.59 sq. km.



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## CONVERSION FACTORS

Money :

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ pie} &= 0.52 \text{ paise} \\ 1 \text{ pice} &= 1.56 \text{ paise} \end{aligned}$$

Linear Measure :

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ inch} &= 2.54 \text{ centimetres} \\ 1 \text{ foot} &= 30.48 \text{ centimetres} \\ 1 \text{ yard} &= 91.44 \text{ centimetres} \\ 1 \text{ mile} &= 1.61 \text{ kilometres} \end{aligned}$$

Square Measure :

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ square foot} &= 0.093 \text{ square metre} \\ 1 \text{ square yard} &= 0.836 \text{ square metre} \\ 1 \text{ square mile} &= 2.59 \text{ square kilometres} = 2.59 \text{ hectares} \\ 1 \text{ acre} &= 0.405 \text{ hectare} \end{aligned}$$

Cubic Measure :

$$1 \text{ cubic foot} = 0.028 \text{ cubic metre}$$

Measure of Capacity :

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ gallon (Imperial)} &= 4.55 \text{ litres} \\ 1 \text{ seer*} &= 0.937 \text{ litre} \end{aligned}$$

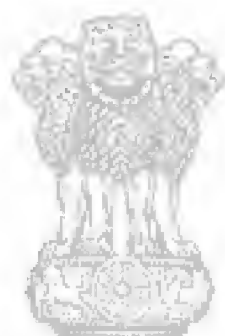
Measure of Weight :

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ tola} &= 11.66 \text{ grams} \\ 1 \text{ chhatak} &= 58.32 \text{ grams} \\ 1 \text{ seer* (80 tolas)} &= 933.10 \text{ grams} \\ 1 \text{ maund*} &= 37.32 \text{ kilograms} \\ 1 \text{ Ounce (Avoirdupois)} &= 28.35 \text{ grams} \\ 1 \text{ pound (Avoirdupois)} &= 453.59 \text{ grams} \\ 1 \text{ hundred weight} &= 50.80 \text{ kilograms} \\ 1 \text{ ton} &= 1,016.05 \text{ kilograms} = 1.016 \text{ metric tonnes} \end{aligned}$$

Thermometer Scales :

$$1^{\circ} \text{ Fahrenheit} = 9/5^{\circ} \text{ Centigrade} + 32$$

\*As defined in Indian Standard Weight Act, 1939.



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## GLOSSARY

<i>Adhivasi</i>	—A type of tenure holder under the Zamindari System
<i>Amil</i>	—A collector of revenue
<i>Amin</i>	— Petty official attached to court of minister and entrusted with work of realising government dues
<i>Amla</i>	— Bitter apple ( <i>Emblica officinalis</i> )
<i>Arhar</i>	— Pigeon pea
<i>Asna</i>	— A kind of tree ( <i>Terminalia tomentosa</i> )
<i>Ber</i>	— A kind of berry
<i>Bhikshu</i>	— Buddhist monk
<i>Bhur</i>	— Sandy land
<i>Chakla</i>	— A small subdivision
<i>Chakladar</i>	— A collector of revenue under nawabs of Avadh
<i>Charkha</i>	— Spinning wheel
<i>Dai</i>	— Midwife without diploma
<i>Dargah</i>	— Shrine of Muslim saint
<i>Dhaincha</i>	— A fodder crop
<i>Dhan</i>	— A kind of tree ( <i>Anogeissus latifolia</i> )
<i>Gagra</i>	— A round pitcher made of metal
<i>Gaon sabha</i>	— Village assembly
<i>Garha</i>	— Rough cloth
<i>Goind</i>	— Field near the village
<i>Hartal</i>	— Strike
<i>Jarhan</i>	— Late paddy sown by transplantation
<i>Jhil</i>	— Lake.
<i>Kankar</i>	— Irregular concretions of impure calcareous matter used for making lime.
<i>Kanoongo</i>	— A subordinate revenue official.
<i>Khariif</i>	— Autumn crop or harvest
<i>Khudkast</i>	— Cultivation by the landowner either himself or through hired labour
<i>Kirana</i>	— General merchandise
<i>Kodon</i>	— A coarse grain
<i>Kurta</i>	— Loose collarless shirt
<i>Lahanga</i>	— Long wide skirt
<i>Lekhpal</i>	— Patwari, village accountant
<i>Lobia</i>	— A kind of bean
<i>Mahal</i>	— Unit of land (comprising several villages) under separate engagement for payment of revenue
<i>Mahu</i>	— A kind of pest
<i>Mal kar</i>	— Goods tax
<i>Manjhar</i>	— Tract of land by the side of river
<i>Masur</i>	— A kind of pulse
<i>Mela</i>	— Fair
<i>Moong</i>	— Green gram
<i>Moonj</i>	— A kind of long reed of which ropes, etc., are made
<i>Muafi</i>	— Revenue free grant



<b>Munsif</b>	— Subordinate judge
<b>Naib</b>	— Deputy, assistant
<b>Nain</b>	— Wife of a barber
<b>Nazim</b>	— Head of a district with revenue, executive and judicial powers under the Avadh Nawabs
<b>Niwar</b>	— Cotton tape
<b>Nizamat</b>	— Area falling under one revenue official
<b>Nyaya</b>	— Justice
<b>Palo</b>	— The outlying field
<b>Panchs</b>	— Members of panchayat
<b>Pateeli</b>	— A round utensil used for cooking food
<b>Pradhan</b>	— President of <i>gaon</i> panchayat
<b>Rabi</b>	— Winter crop or spring crop
<b>Reh</b>	— Saline efflorescence
<b>Sal</b>	— A kind of tree ( <i>Shorea robusta</i> )
<b>Sanai</b>	— A type of green manure
<b>Sangharama</b>	— <i>Buddha vihara</i> (Buddhist monastery) where Bhikshu Sangh lives
<b>Sawan</b>	— A coarse grain
<b>Sarpanch</b>	— Head member of the <i>Nyaya</i> panchayat
<b>Sir</b>	— Land cultivated by the owner
<b>Sissoo</b>	— A kind of tree ( <i>Delbergia sissoo</i> )
<b>Tamra Patra</b>	— Copper plate given as award
<b>Tarhar</b>	— Lowlying land
<b>Taqavi</b>	— Loans given by government to cultivators for agricultural purposes
<b>Tendu Leaves</b>	— Leaves that are used for making indegenous cigarettes ( <i>DiosPyros melanoxylon</i> )
<b>Til</b>	— Linseed
<b>Uparhar</b>	— Upland plain
<b>Urd</b>	— Black gram
<b>Usar</b>	— Barren, unfertile
<b>Vihara</b>	— Monastery where Buddhist monks live
<b>Vikas Kar</b>	— Development tax
<b>Yatra Kar</b>	— Passenger tax

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